

● Knowledge Cluster Initiative

Map of Knowledge Clusters

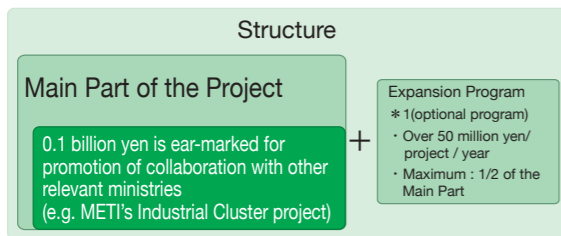
Knowledge Cluster Initiative (2nd Stage)

1. Purpose

Following the results obtained during the Knowledge Cluster Initiative (1st stage), MEXT strongly supports the formation of world-class clusters while focusing on a "Selection and Concentration" approach.

2. Budgetary Measures

- FY2009 budget: 7.5 billion yen
- Flexible budget allocations to regions according to their R&D field and their degree of progress, over five years.
- Make consigning contracts with core organizations (e.g. science and technology foundations) designated by local governments
 - * Sets the minimum amount of expenditure by local actors to develop clusters.
- Sets aside a certain part of the budget for the "Expansion Program" to encourage collaboration with other clusters and/or institutions in different regions (both in Japan and overseas) to enhance competitiveness.



KANSAI (Saito & Kobe) (P.30)

Biomedical Cluster Kansai (Life Science)

- * Kyoto University, Osaka University, Kobe University, Osaka Prefecture University, National Institute of Biomedical Innovation (NIBIO), RIKEN Center for Developmental Biology, etc

Yamaguchi (P.36)

Yamaguchi Green Materials Cluster (Nanotech/Materials Environment)

- * Yamaguchi University, Tokyo University of Science Yamaguchi, National Fisheries University, etc

Fukuoka Kitakyushu Iizuka (P.32)

Fukuoka Cluster for Advanced System LSI Technology Development (IT)

- * Kyushu University, Kyushu Institute of Technology, The University of Kitakyushu, Fukuoka University, Waseda University, etc

Kurume region (P.40)

Kurume Cutting-edge Medical Research Cluster (Life Sciences)

- * Kurume University, Kyushu University, Kyushu Sangyo University, Kyoto University, The Biotechnology and Food Research Institute (BFRI) and Chemical and Textile Industry Research Institute (CTRL) of Fukuoka Industrial Technology Center (FITC), Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), etc

Toyama/Ishikawa (P.20)

Hokuriku Innovation Cluster for Health Science (Life Sciences)

- * University of Toyama, Toyama Prefectural University, Kanazawa University, Kanazawa Institute of Technology, Kanazawa Medical University, Toyama Prefectural Institute for Pharmaceutical Research

Kyoto and Keihanna (P.28)

Kyoto Environmental Nanotechnology Cluster (Nanotech/Materials Environment)

- * Kyoto University, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Osaka University, Kobe University, Doshisha University, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto Women's University, Kochi University of Technology, Kyoto Municipal Industrial Research Institute

TOKUSHIMA (P.38)

Tokushima Health and Medicine Cluster (Life Science)

- * University of Tokushima; Tokushima Bunri University, Tokushima Prefectural Industrial Technology Center, etc

Tokai Region (P.26)

Tokai Region Nanotechnology Manufacturing Cluster (Environment, Nanotech/Materials)

- * Nagoya University, Nagoya Institute of Technology, etc

Hokkaido Area (with Sapporo as the core) (P.16)

Sapporo Biocluster "Bio-S" (Life Science, IT)

- * Hokkaido University, etc

Hakodate Area (P.34)

Hakodate Marine Bio Industrial Cluster -Green Innovation of UMI (Universal Marine Industry)- (Life Science)

- * Hokkaido University, FUTURE UNIVERSITY-HAKODATE, Hakodate National College of Technology, etc

Greater Sendai Area (P.18)

Advanced Preventive Health Care Services Cluster (IT, Life Sciences)

- * TOHOKU University, etc

Nagano Prefecture region (P.22)

Shinshu Smart Device Cluster (Nanotech/Materials)

- * Shinshu University, Tokyo University of Science, Nagano Prefecture General Industry Technology Center, etc

Hamamatsu (P.24)

Hamamatsu Optronics Cluster (IT, Nanotech/Materials, Life Sciences)

- * Shizuoka University, Toyohashi University of Technology, Hamamatsu University School of Medicine, etc

Knowledge Cluster Initiative (Innovative Stage)

1. Purpose

The purpose of the program is to promote the development of internationally competitive clusters in regions where industry, academia, and government have collaborated in order to enhance the competitiveness of regional industry and to create new industry. To accomplish this purpose, MEXT promotes global expansion of these clusters by taking full advantage of strong and distinctive R&D potentials and core technologies, while encouraging each region's independence.

2. Budgetary Measures

- FY2009 budget: 1.2 billion yen
- Flexible budget allocations to regions according to their R&D field and their degree of progress. 300-500 million yen per year, over five years
- Make consigning contracts with core organizations (e.g., science and technology foundations) designated by local governments.
- To enhance regional independence further, each region is responsible for activities equivalent to more than half of the national expenses allocated for cluster formation.

○ 9 clusters (2nd Stage)

○ 4 clusters (Innovative Stage)

* : Core Research Organization