

# Science and Technology Cooperation in Addressing Global Issues

## Jointly Creating Scientific Knowledge for International Development

Global-scale problems, including global warming, natural disasters, and infectious diseases, have become increasingly serious. The international community is now required to work together to approach such problems, since it is hard for individual countries or regions to tackle them alone. In addition to traditional cooperation systems, innovation by science and technology is also expected to play an important role in providing solutions for responding to complex and growing issues.

In these circumstances, JICA initiated the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) in fiscal 2008. Utilizing Japan's science and technology, JICA aims to create newer "knowledge" through international joint research between Japan and developing countries, as well as solving global-scale issues by giving research outcomes back to the real world.

### Implementation System

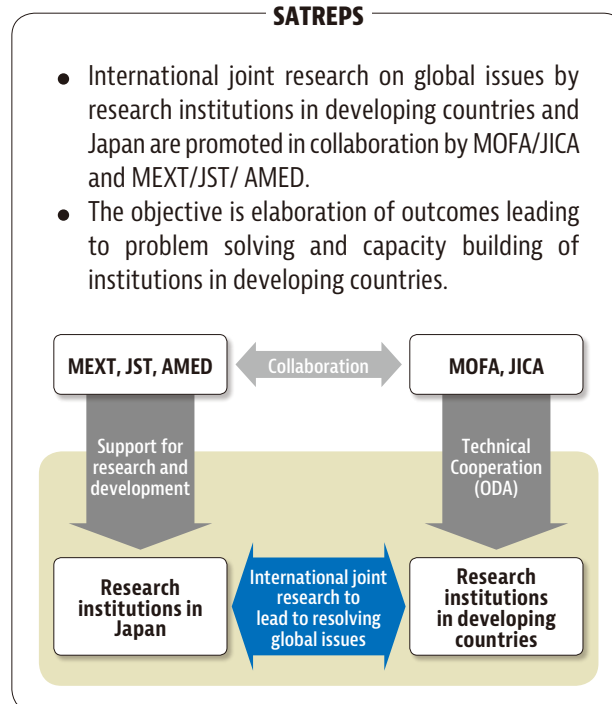
This program is designed to promote international joint research in which both Japanese research institutions and those of developing countries collaborate based on the social needs in developing countries. Its aims are to contribute to human resources development to create new knowledge and to utilize research outcomes for the progress of society with a view to addressing global issues in four research fields, or five research areas: environment and energy, bio-resources, disaster prevention and mitigation, and infectious diseases control.

SATREPS is jointly conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA); JICA; the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT); the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST); and Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED).



Ethiopia: A Japanese researcher teaming up with his Ethiopian counterpart to give hands-on training in soil testing to Ethiopian students under the SATREPS Project for Development and Operation Model of Plant-derived Soil Additives for Road Disaster Reduction on Problematic Soil

### Implementation System of SATREPS



In SATREPS, research proposals that are submitted from Japanese research institutions to JST or AMED are examined to see if they are consistent with research requests from developing countries (i.e., a matching system), from the perspective of science and technology and ODA. Then, approved proposals come into practice under the framework of a JICA technical cooperation project. JICA provides the funding necessary for technical cooperation projects (e.g., dispatch of Japanese researchers, acceptance of partner countries' researchers, provision of equipment, and local activity expenses). On the other hand, JST and AMED supports research activities necessary in Japan or third countries.

### Selection of Research Projects and Implementation Status

In fiscal 2019, there were 124 matches—between 182 research requests from developing countries and 144 proposals from research institutions in Japan—that were subject to the selection process. Of these, 12 research proposals were finally approved, bringing the accumulated total number of approved proposals to 145 since this program was launched in fiscal 2008. The total number of participating countries, including those in the preparation process, amounted to 51 after Malawi became a new partner country in joint research.