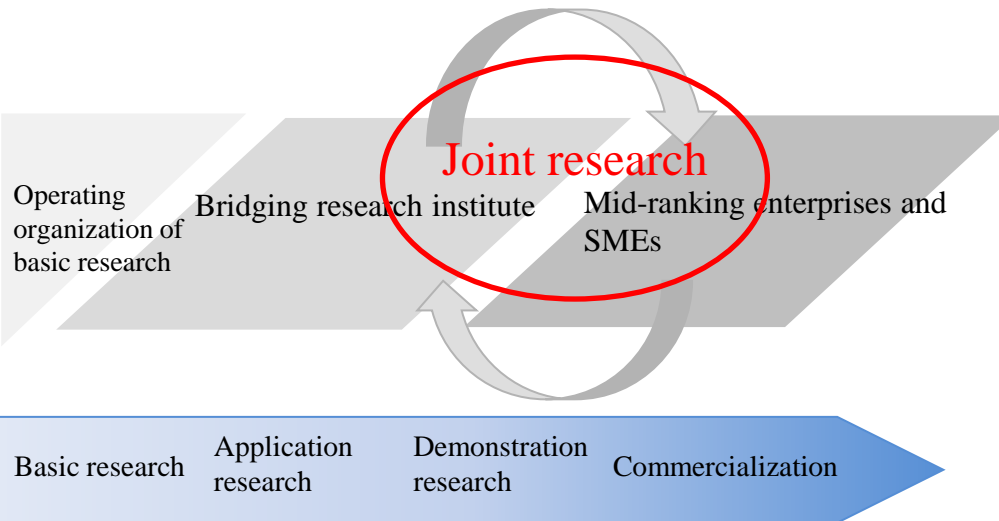


Project for Promoting Joint R&D between Public Research Institutes that Play the Gap-bridging Role and Mid-ranking Enterprises and SMEs

- Mid-ranking enterprises and SMEs are expected to contribute to the creation of innovation, e.g., risk-taking efforts for flexibly embarking on commercialization of their technologies, by entering small markets that large companies hardly enter.
- Utilizing research institutes that combine innovative technological seeds and commercialization (bridging research institutes) will contribute to the swift, secure commercialization of such technologies, through which the government will support mid-ranking enterprises and SMEs in achieving the improvement of their technologies and the innovation of production processes.



Public bridging research institutes, etc. should be:

- ① Positioning bridging services as a major mission
- ② Providing a developed system in which funds from the private sector will increase
- ③ Providing a developed system in which industrial needs will be ascertained and the results of efforts will be reflected in their own internal activities
- ④ Providing a developed system in which technical seeds and know-how will be adopted from external organizations
- ⑤ Providing a developed system for promoting utilization of intellectual property rights

Current number of publicly-confirmed bridging research institutes (174)

Public research organization, etc.	53 institutes in 44 municipalities
Universities	108 institutes (100 universities) in 42 municipalities
Colleges of Technology	3 institutes in 3 municipalities
National Research and Development Agencies, etc.	10 institutes

As of September 2016