Aiming to promote cooperative relationships with other countries in the field of science and technology, Japan has concluded bilateral agreements on cooperation in science and technology with 47 countries and organizations (32 agreements in total).

Under the agreements, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), the Cabinet Office (CAO), and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), has been undertaking a variety of cooperative activities, including information exchange on R&D and joint research, through a joint committee on cooperation in science and technology, and other councils.

METI has also been partaking in meetings related to bilateral industrial technologies, courtesy calls and other activities in the field as needed.
Aiming to boost the industrial competitiveness of Japanese companies, Japan has been engaging in international joint R&D with overseas companies that possess outstanding technologies and expertise, through which Japan will seek to leverage international know-how and developments in S&T in achieving the goal of creating cutting-edge technologies in an efficient manner.

Eligibilities (target organizations, target activities, subsidy ratios, etc.)

Purpose and outline of the projects

International R&D Projects

Private sector support for international joint development

Government
Granting payment

NEDO
Subsidiary

Japanese companies

Private companies, etc.

(METI)

Cooperation frameworks, etc.

(Ministry of Economy)

Concrete support measures, etc.

(NEDO)

Providing support, e.g., funding

(Funding Agency)

Providing support, e.g., funding

(Japanese side)

(MOC)

[1] Joint public invitation for applicants
[2] Examination respectively in Japan and partner country
[3] Announcement of adoption and determination of finalized applicants (Joint committees)

(Partner country side)

Major efforts under the MOC including:
[i] Promoting the formulation of concrete projects that will lead to industrial cooperation, and
[ii] Establishing a framework for providing funding.

Major efforts under the MOU including:
[i] Exchanging information on technical trends, fields of concern, etc., and
[ii] Providing concrete measures for providing support in joint projects.
In November 2015, the Paris agreement was issued and Japan joined Mission Innovation (MI). The key to acting against climate change without sacrificing economic growth is the development of innovative technologies. Japan formulated the “National Energy and Environment Strategy for Technological Innovation towards 2050”. Prospective focused areas are identified and research and development on them are strengthened.

At the G7 Kitakyushu Energy Ministerial Meeting in May 2016, the countries stated that they intended to play a leading role in MI and encourage collaboration among relevant research laboratories and institutes to promote the development of innovative clean energy technologies.

International Joint Research and Development to generate excellent research outputs by gathering advanced technologies and resources

- Geothermal power generation
- Hydrogen carrier
- Smart grid
- Photovoltaic power
- Biomass

Global collaboration on basic research activities

⇒ Creation of Innovative energy technologies which have high potential GHG reduction
Global society has to achieve the goal of reducing the amount of greenhouse gas emissions by half before 2050. However, the efforts for enhancing and disseminating existing technologies towards this end are limited. To overcome this challenge, Japan will develop more innovative technologies from a mid- to long-term perspective as well as contributing to the goals set by the COP21.
Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that the Government of Japan will set up an annual global conference, Innovation for Cool Earth Forum (ICEF) held every year in October.

ICEF is aimed at providing a platform to promote discussions and cooperation among researchers, businesses and policy makers from around the world in order to address climate change through innovation of energy and environmental technologies, including their dissemination.

http://www.icef-forum.org/index.html