



<Fact Sheet>

The Science and Technology Foundation of Japan

- Foundation:**
- November 1, 1982 - Formed as the Japan Prize Preparatory Foundation with an aim to establish the Japan Prize
 - May 5, 1983 - Renamed the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan with an added objective of raising awareness of and developing comprehensive public knowledge of science and technology
 - A non-profit organization under the direction of the Cabinet Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
- President:** Dr. Masao Ito
Special Advisor, Brain Science Institute, RIKEN
- Chairman:** Prof. Hiroyuki Yoshikawa Dr. Eng.
Director-General, Center for Research and Development Strategy,
Japan Science and Technology Agency
- Location:** Akasaka Twin Tower East, 13th Floor
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Tel: 81-3-5545-0551 Fax: 81-3-5545-0554 URL: www.japanprize.jp/en/
- Activities:**
- 1) Recognizing outstanding achievements in science and technology with the Japan Prize
 - 2) Promoting knowledge and information on science and technology
 - Holding “Easy-to-understand Science and Technology” seminars
 - Providing Japanese undergraduate/graduate students with an opportunity to participate in the annual “Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar (SIYSS)”
 - 3) Research Grant program in science and technology
 - Providing financial grants to young scientists and researchers
 - 4) Conducting research and study in science and technology

Main Activities:

1) Japan Prize

The Science and Technology Foundation of Japan honors those whose original and outstanding achievements in science and technology are recognized as having advanced the frontiers of knowledge and served the cause of peace and prosperity for mankind. Over the last 25 years, since its inception in 1985, 68 people in 13 countries have received the Japan Prize. A Japan Prize laureate receives a certificate of merit and a commemorative medal. A cash prize of 50 million Japanese yen (approx. US\$550,000) is also awarded in each prize category.

Each year the Foundation chooses two specific fields from the two areas of the “Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Engineering” and “Biology, Agriculture and Medicine.” The Foundation’s Selection Committee selects one winner for each field from candidates nominated by qualified people including intellectuals, researchers and scientists across the globe.

The Japan Prize laureates in the past include Dr. Charles K. Kao (US), Dr. Frank Sherwood Rowland (US), Dr. Elias James Corey (US), Prof. Dr. Gerhard Ertl (Germany), Dr. Arvid Carlsson (Sweden) and Dr. Luc Montagnier (France), all of whom were awarded the Nobel Prize after receiving the Japan Prize. Some were awarded the Japan Prize and Nobel Prize in the same year. They include Dr. Kary B. Mullis (US), Prof. Albert Fert (France) and Prof. Dr. Peter Grünberg (Germany).

2) “Easy-to-understand Science and Technology” Seminars

The Foundation holds a series of seminars on advanced technologies used widely in everyday-life. In the seminars designed for students and general public, experts in the related fields explain in plain terms the technologies that are also the focus of interest at that time. Since the first seminar was held in March 1989 over 20 years ago, 198 seminars have been held across Japan.

3) Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar (SIYSS)

Under the auspices of the Swedish Federation of Young Scientists and with the support of the Nobel Foundation, the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan sends two Japanese students to the annual Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar. Since the program started in 1987, 23 years ago, 44 undergraduate/graduate students participated in the event.

4) Research Grants

The Foundation provides research grants to scientists and researchers under 35 years of age. Every year, the Foundation selects projects in the same fields as the Japan Prize of that year and gives one million Japanese yen (approx. US\$11,000) for a project. For 2010, 19 young people received the grants.

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