

## **Framework of Cooperation**

1. The participants who intend to join the "e-ASIA Joint Research Program" (hereinafter referred to as the "Program") are hereinafter referred to as the "Members".
2. The objectives of the Program are; (a) Economic and social development, (b) Solving common issues, and (c) Advancement in science and technology which includes fostering young researchers, in the East Asia region.
3. The prospective Members at present of the Program are public funding institutions including governmental bodies and /or independent funding agencies who received an invitation letter from Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). Countries of those organizations are the East Asia Summit (EAS) participating countries.
4. Activities to be conducted under the Program are; (a) Joint research by Matching Fund, (b) Research exchange by On-top fund to existing projects, (c) Facilitation of networking and (d) Information exchange regarding best practices in national research and development activities and international cooperation.
5. For management of the Program, "Board" as a decision-making body and "Science Advisory Council" for scientific advice to the Board will be established.
6. Science and Technology research projects to be supported under the Program should be multilateral among research groups from three or more different countries, and will be selected on a competitive basis. Priority will be given to projects having scientific merit as well as impact on economy and society in the region.
7. Intention of accession by a prospective Member will be kept by JST in writing and secession by a Member will be notified to the Board by a writing six months prior to the intended conduct.
8. The activities under this Framework of Cooperation will be subject to the respective laws and regulations of each Member's country and within its budgetary appropriation.

9. This Framework of Cooperation will commence among the Members who have sent the Letters of Intent to JST, as of 2/29/2012.