JFY2014 Awardees
[General category: Yen 15 million/($135,000)year for up to 3 years]
[Special category: Yen 30 million ($270,000)/year for up to 3 years]

Project	PI	Synopsis	Collaborators
[General Category] Development of Benchmarks of the Quality of Prior Art Search in International Patent Prosecution Processes	Setsuko ASAMI Professor Graduate School of Innovation Studies, Tokyo University of Science	When doing business internationally, patent protection in each country is indispensable. However, the quality of the patent examination varies among patent offices. A patent office with low examination quality could overlook an advanced technology and grant invalid patent rights leading to many lawsuits. In order to facilitate the quantitative comparison of the examination quality of patent offices in different countries, this project seeks to use statistical methods to analyze the comprehensiveness of prior document searches in international applications such as the ones submitted under the Patent Cooperation Treaty or PCT (whose contracting states differ in their examination processing times) and develop benchmarks for examination quality. Along with facilitating improvements in the quality of examinations and a better understanding of where the international framework is heading, such benchmarks would also allow us to better predict the outcome of a patent application for the applicant.	Faculty of Economics, Gakushuin University Institute of Innovation Research, Graduate School of Commerce and Management, Hitotsubashi University International IP Legislation Research Office, International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property of Japan Institute of Intellectual Property
[Special Category] Establishment of Methodology and Database for Life Cycle-Based Environmental Assessment and Installation to the Society for the Promotion of Green Procurement	Norihiro ITSUBO Environmental Studies, Tokyo City University	To promote green purchasing in collaboration with industry, government, and private sector and carry out continuing green innovation, an assessment standard for the environment shared by diverse stakeholders are necessary. Currently in European countries, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)-based green purchasing is gaining attention. Meanwhile, it is hard to say that LCA is adequately reflected in green purchasing nowadays in Japan. This project develops an analytic technique for evaluating environmental hot spots using a latest database of environmental impact and a technique to assess the environmental impact. By making good use of scientific methods, one hundred items will be analyzed. Also, by spreading assessment results to society and adopting an environmental label, we aim to promote Green purchasing based on LCA mind effectively.	Research Institute of Science for Safety and Sustainability, the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University Japan Environment Association

[Special Category] Innovation in Evidence-Informed Policy Making: Through Visualizing and Redesigning Social Systems for Countermeasures against Regional Disparity in Healthcare Quality	Yuichi IMANAKA Professor, Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University	It is urgently required for Japan, where the aged society is in progress, and facing financial difficulties, to rebuild an effective social system that supports the lively living of the elderly and young people. To achieve that, addressing regional disparities in the quality of medical care is of pressing concern. This project covers diseases such as cerebral infarctions and acute myocardial infarctions, which become a particularly heavy burden on society, and takes up the regional gaps in the quality of medical care as an assignment. The caps will be graphically represented by using big data analytics. Also, such graphically represented data can be shared widely with the people who are concerned, then we aim to build a system in which each component does its role to advance effective policies and measures.	Kyoto University National Institute of Public Health Gakushuin University Kyoto Tachibana University Kyoto University of Art & Design The Japan Stroke Association Community-care Policy Network Japan Municipal Hospital Association National Caravan Mate Liaison Council Secretariat Studio-L
[Special Category] Realizing Policymaking Process of Infectious Disease Control using Mathematical Modeling Techniques	Hiroshi NISHIURA Assoc. Prof. Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo	Thanks to the dramatic development of computer science and the	