

1. Study Outline

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1.1 Study Framework

- The Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) have conducted a survey of current policies and initiatives at the national and institutional levels which promote international researcher mobility. The study aims at understanding what is happening in the arena of international mobility of human resources in the Science and Technology (S&T) field.
- The study was conducted as a web-based survey over the period of 30 January to 23 February 2007. The main sources referenced were the websites of government bodies and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the relevant countries, mainly the OECD member countries (see the lists in page 9 -10).
- The limitations of the current study need to be acknowledged. The survey was conducted under severe time constraints, and data sources were limited to the websites available in English and in Japanese. Therefore, the survey does not provide a comprehensive review of all initiatives taken by the countries and the HEIs in relation to international researcher mobility. Nevertheless the study does provide a broad overview of the general policy trends and distinctive examples in the relevant national and institutional contexts.
- Notwithstanding the above noted limitations, the current study represents an important addition to the document prepared by the OECD secretariat. The survey findings will be utilised, for example, as follows:
 - (1) For the JSPS, to develop a model and identify good practices for its on-going programme, *Strategic Fund for Establishing International Headquarters in Universities*;
 - (2) For delegates from other countries, to refer to as basic data for future country surveys conducted by the Working Group on the Steering and Funding of Research Institutions (SFRI)
- For the purposes of this study, “researcher” was defined as research personnel enrolled in doctoral courses or higher and included doctoral candidates, post-doctoral fellows, teachers and researchers at universities and other HEIs, and researchers at research institutes.

- This report consists of two parts: *National Survey* and *Institutional Survey*. Research methods for each part are summarised below.

1.2 Research Methodology

National Survey

- For the purposes of this study, “researcher” was defined as research personnel enrolled in doctoral courses or higher and included doctoral candidates, post-doctoral fellows, teachers and researchers at universities and other HEIs, and researchers at research institutes.
- This report consists of two parts: *National Survey* and *Institutional Survey*. Research methods for each part are summarised below.
- The national survey primarily targeted the OECD member countries, but when considered appropriate, also included countries such as China and South Africa, which are undertaking some interesting initiatives to attract researchers internationally.
- When referring to specific measures, we have supplemented web-based information wherever possible with references and comments made at past OECD/CRSP/SFRI meetings regarding initiatives taken by countries to improve international researcher mobility.
- We have summarized specific initiatives taken by the countries. The following list of information was included wherever possible: programme names, objectives, background, targets, start year, period, budget, responsible organisations, eligibility criteria, annual budget, outcomes, etc... These subject headings are based on those used in the Pilot Survey among four countries conducted by OECD/SFRI in 2006/2007.

Institutional Survey

- For the institutional survey, we first selected a target sample of 30 universities. In selecting the target institutions, we consulted the Times Higher Education Supplement, *The Times Higher World University Rankings 2006*, focusing primarily on higher-ranked institutions. A total of 20 institutions were chosen, balancing languages and geographical distribution: 11 universities were selected as English-speaking institutions from Europe and North America, and 9 universities were chosen from non-native English-speaking countries around the world (see the list in page 9). To these we added the top 10 universities in Japan to make the total of 30 universities.
- In surveying initiatives to improve international researcher mobility at the institutional level, we focused on the following five aspects:
 - (1) Provision of fellowships and grants by the university itself;
 - (2) Research and education exchanges among multiple universities via institutional alliances and consortia;

- (3) International strategic plans developed for the university as a whole and arrangements for implementing international activities on campus; and
 - (4) Establishment of overseas research facilities and efforts to attract overseas research institutes to set up on campus.
 - (5) Social and cultural support for overseas researchers (e.g., housing, provisions for family, language support, etc)
- We identified examples of specific initiatives by institutions based on the above frame of reference and tabulated them according to the following headings: programme names, objectives, background, targets, start year, period, budget, responsible organisations, eligibility criteria, annual budget, results, etc.. As with the country survey, the subject headings are based on those used in the Pilot Survey among four countries conducted by OECD/SFRI in 2006/2007.
 - Regarding specific programmes such as grants and fellowships, we only included those implemented on a *university-wide* basis, excluding programmes and provisions provided and managed at the school/college/faculty/ department level.

Note

- Because of the limited data sources used to conduct both surveys, it was not possible to develop a comprehensive picture of the various programmes. It should be noted that blanks on the worksheets indicate areas where *web-based information was not available*; the blank space in the table does not necessarily mean that the item in question does not exist.

Reference:

OECD. (2002) *International Mobility of the Highly Skilled*.

List of Countries referred to in this study

OECE member countries

Australia
Austria
Canada
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Italy
Japan
Korea
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Sweden
Switzerland
United Kingdom
United States

Non-member countries

China
Malaysia
Singapore
South Africa
Thailand

Region/Sub-region

EU
Nordic Council

List of Universities referred to in this study

Universities in English-speaking countries of Europe and North America

- Australian National University
- California Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Imperial College London
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- Stanford University
- University of Auckland
- University of Cambridge
- University of Oxford
- Yale University

Universities in non-native English-speaking countries

- Copenhagen University
- Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- ETH Zurich
- Indian Institutes of Technology
- National University of Singapore
- Peking University
- Seoul National University
- University of Heidelberg

Universities in Japan

- Hokkaido University
- Keio University
- Kyoto University
- Kyushu University
- Nagoya University
- Osaka University
- The University of Tokyo
- Tohoku University
- Tokyo Institute of Technology
- Waseda University