

Recent Policies of MEXT to Promote Science and Technology in Regional Areas

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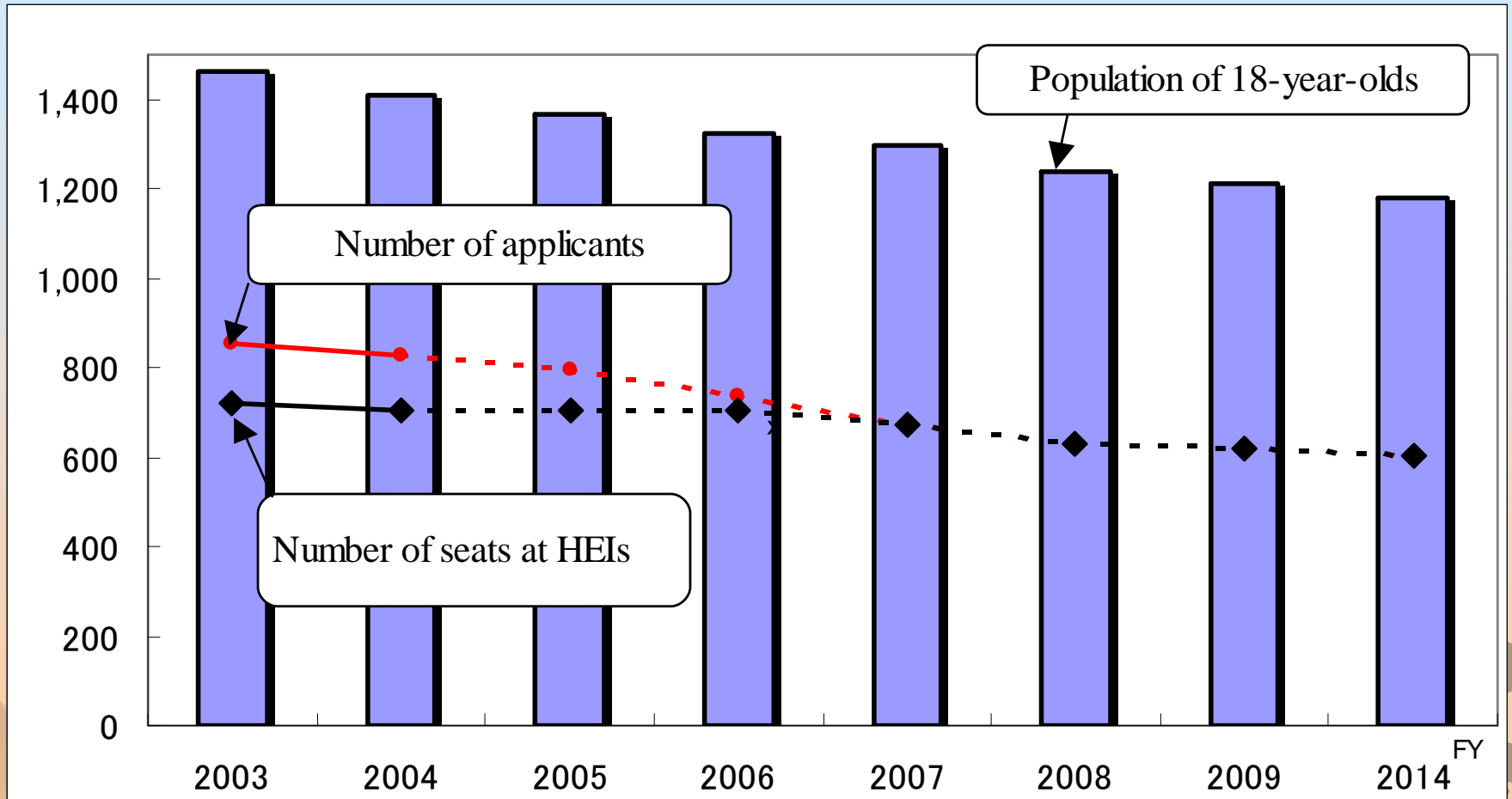
National Institution for
Academic Degrees and
University Evaluation

Reforms Implemented since 1991

- Incorporation of all the national and some municipal universities
- Amendment of School Juridical Person system
 - Introduction of flexibility into system for establishing universities
 - Implementation of a pilot scheme to allow joint-stock corporation to establish universities
- Introduction of third-party evaluation system
- Creation of professional graduate schools

Population of 18-year-olds, total number of places at higher education institutions and expected number of applicants

(1,000 persons)



Diversity in Functions of Higher Education

- Pursuing world-class research and education
- Training highly-skilled professionals
- Training wide-ranging professionals
- Carrying out general education
- Carrying out education and research in specific areas (arts, sports etc.)
- Carrying out life long learning for the community
- Contribution to society (service to society)



Free to choose any of these:

single or multi-functions

Role of the government

Provision of future model and policy making
rather than planning and supervision



Council for Science and Technology Policy (CSTP)

Established in 2001

[Fundamental concept]

Knowledge and Technology are precious resources for the future development of Japan. With research and development as its base, S&T policy creates new knowledge and is an important key to revitalize the economy.

[Role of CSTP]

One of the four councils of important policies of Cabinet Office. The CSTP is comprised of the Prime Minister, relevant ministers and experts. It works out basic and fundamental policies for development of S&T for the country from the supra-ministry point of view under the leadership of Prime Minister and relevant ministers.

First Basic Plan (1996-2000)	¥17 trillion
Second Basic Plan (2001-2005)	¥24 trillion
Third Basic Plan (2006-2010)	¥25 trillion



Proposals by Council for Science and Technology Policy (CSTP) in an attempt to revitalize country's regional economy

✧ **Forming regional clusters**

✧ **Promotion of university-industry-government link in urban areas**

✧ **Building regional innovation systems and creating vital regions**

On the basis of this proposals, MEXT prepares funds to implement the plan with universities as the central player.



Fiscal Year 2006

Total budget ¥24,673 million
(£ 100million)

Fiscal Year 2007

Total budget ¥25,271 million
(£ 100million)



Up to FY 2006

§ Establishment of regional “intellectual clusters” ~ ¥ 10,000 million: 18 regions

<Background> (CSTP 2nd Basic Plan)

The "intellectual cluster" is a regional system of technological innovations in which a public research organization (incl. universities) uses its R&D potential and other unique abilities to lead companies in and around a particular region.



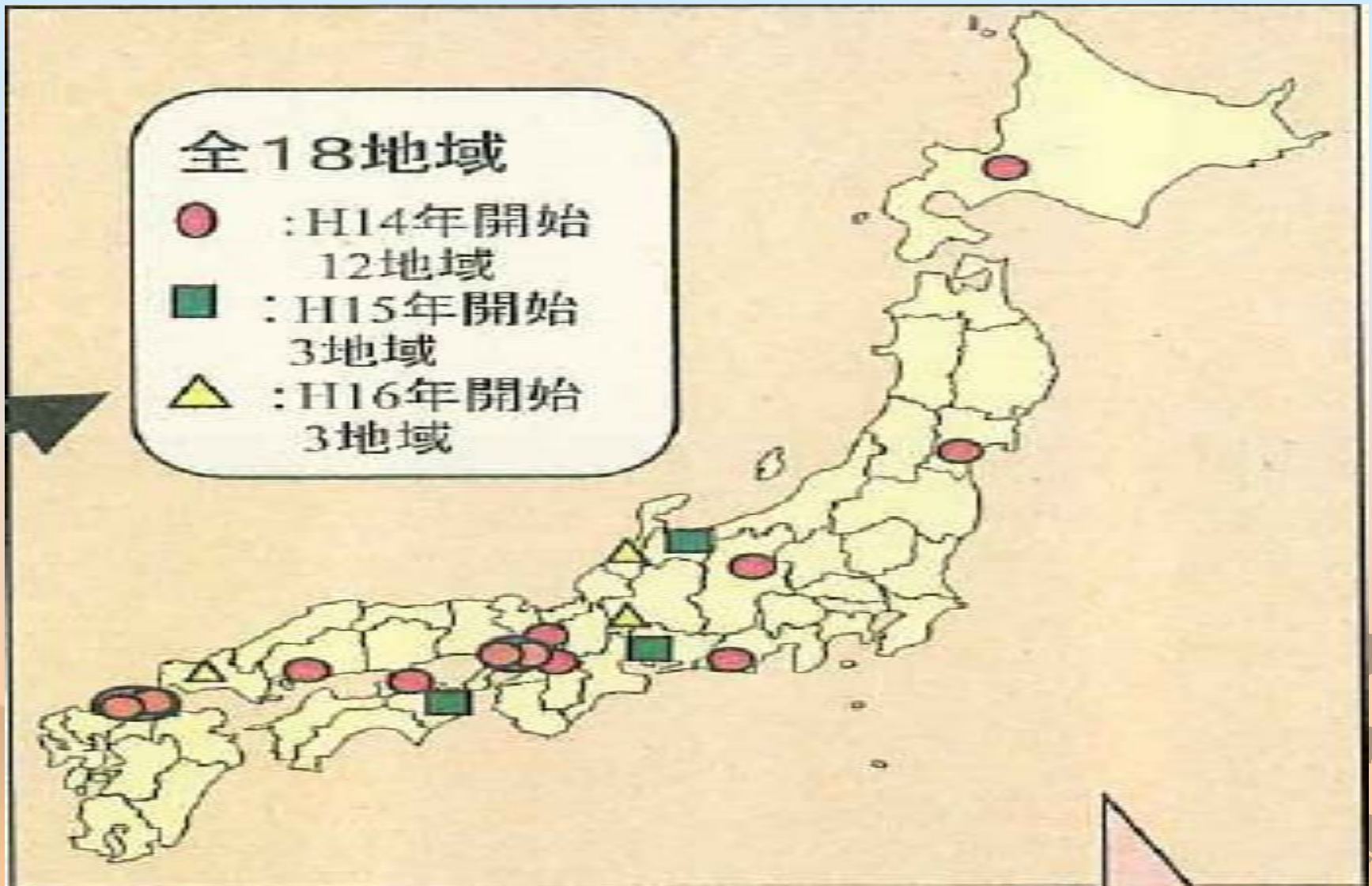
<Outcome>

(1) Efficient system of university-industry-government has been established. The total number of researchers participated in the project during the period of FY 2002-2005 was 3764, out of which 1,316 were from industry.

(2) A number of patent applications (over 2,200), many cases of actual production of products on a commercial basis (over 800 items), and starting up considerable number of venture companies.

(3) Development of programmes unique for each region such as setting up of venture fund to promote local industry

Regions where intellectual clusters have been founded



§ Promotion of university-industry-government link in urban areas ~ ¥ 4,000 million: 31 regions

<Target>

Enhance starting-up and developing of new industry unique for each region by technological innovation.

<Scheme>

Create innovation in each region by coordinating fundamental research and technology transfer carried out by local government, local bureaus of METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) and JST (Japan Science and Technology Agency) with Technology Transfer Plazas and JST Satellites as the bases.

Locations of Technology Transfer Plazas and JST Satellites



§ Building regional innovation systems and creating vital regions ~ ¥ 7,200 million

<Background> (CSTP 3rd Basic Plan)

Because the promotion of S&T in regions contributes to building regional innovation systems and creating vital regions—thus enhancing the sophistication and diversification of S&T of Japan as a whole, along with the competitive edge of innovation systems—the government will actively encourage such promotion. Moreover, the government will promote broad-ranging activities as something that will contribute to achieving safe, secure, and quality

lives for local residents, and produce creative and appealing regions and culture.

<Target>

Promote university-industry-government link and enhance the production of original research output of universities in each region to revitalize the regional economy by producing new industry.

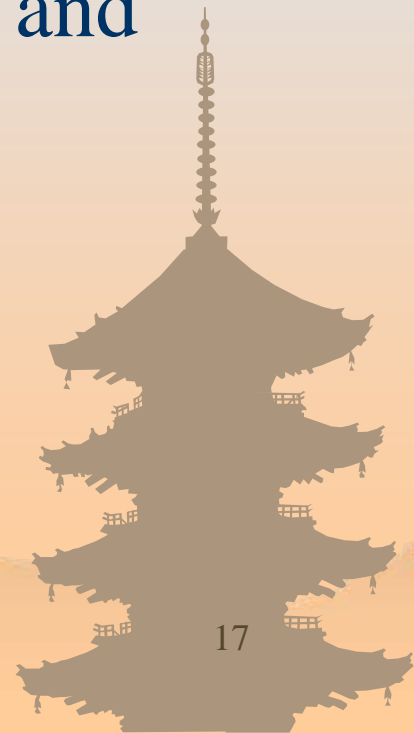


Fiscal Year 2007

§ Establishment of regional “intellectual clusters” ~ ¥ 5,500 million

§ Promotion of university-industry-government link in urban areas ~ ¥ 4,500 million: 31 regions

§ Building regional innovation systems and creating vital regions ~ ¥ 9,400 million

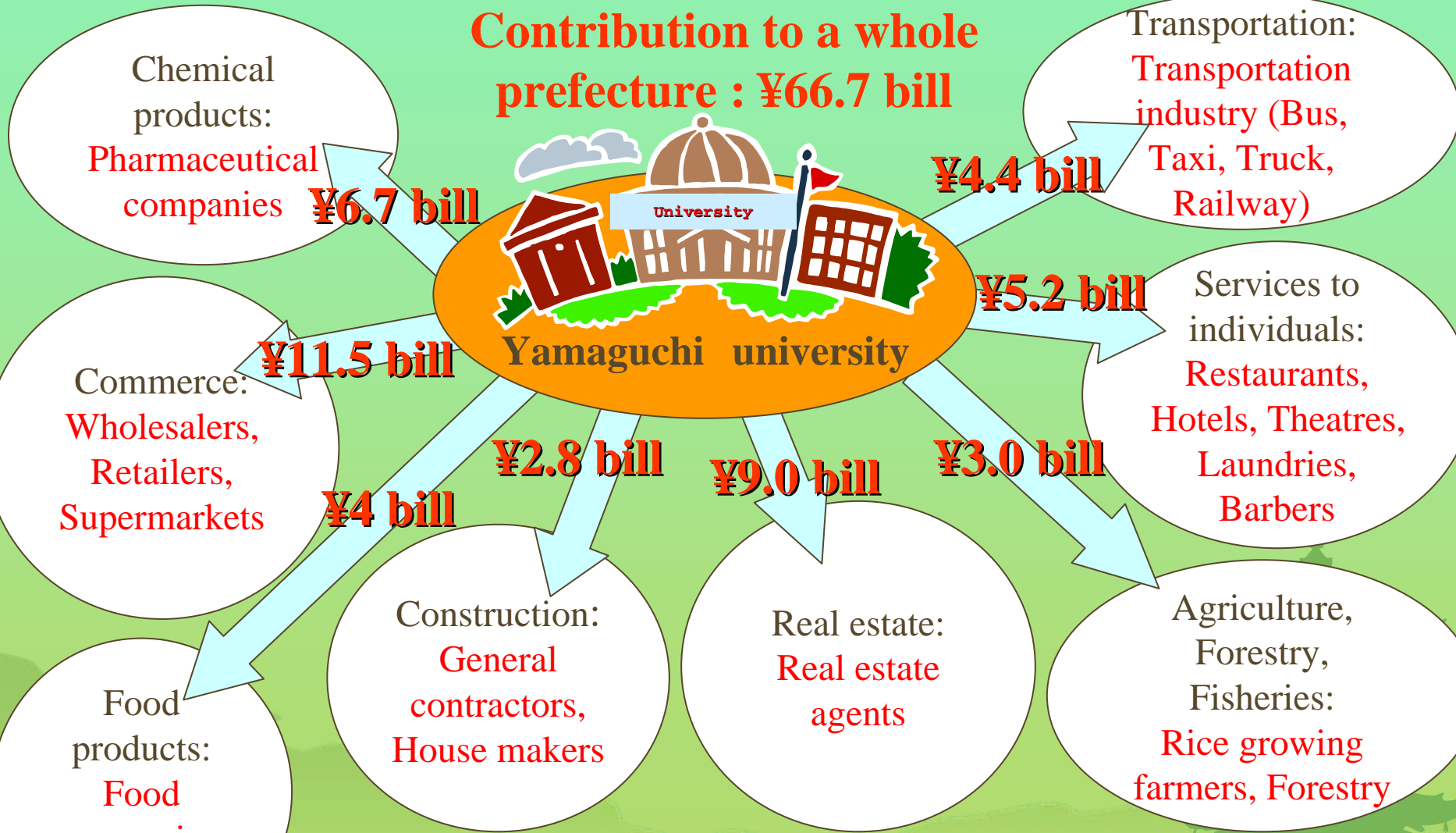


Economic contribution of a medium-sized national university (Yamaguchi university) in Yamaguchi area

Contribution to a whole prefecture : ¥66.7 bill



Yamaguchi university



In addition: Telecommunication + Financing + Precision machine + Electronics → ¥20.1 bill