



Executive summary

Project objectives

Project's network

J-BILAT was a 36-month EU co-funded project for the promotion, enhancement and development of EU-Japan cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). It was the first project of its kind, with the following overall goals.

Objectives of the Project

- * To facilitate EU-Japan cooperation in research and innovation by raising awareness among the S&T research community in Japan about the various tools available in the 7th Framework Programme (FP7).
- * To make it easier and faster for the S&T research community in Japan to join the FP7 research projects by establishing FP7 information services in Japan.
- * To promote Japanese participation in FP7 by organising awareness raising activities in Japan to share best practices and address issues affecting the participation of Japanese organisations in the FP7.

A strong network for the promotion of EU-Japan cooperation in STI

With the support of the 9 liaising organizations listed below and other relevant organizations, the J-BILAT project covered wide areas of cooperation in STI.

Ministry	METI	The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
Funding organizations	NEDO	New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization
	JST	Japan Science and Technology Agency
	JSPS	Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
Research organizations	AIST	National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology
	NIMS	National Institute for Materials Science
	RIKEN	

Other academic organizations	EUIJ-Kansai	EU Institute in Japan, Kansai
	EAJ	The Engineering Academy of Japan

It was unique in the sense that major funding organizations and major research organizations in Japan participated in the same project, aiming at the promotion of EU-Japan cooperation in STI. A working platform for the exchange of information, opinion and experiences was created. The project's Steering Committee meetings with representatives of the liaising organizations were also used to interact with relevant group of people, for example, through extra sessions with embassies and projects of nordic countries.

Awareness and opinion surveys

During the project lifetime, 3 surveys were conducted. Following the 1st survey in March 2010, the 2nd survey was conducted during 28 June - 25 July 2011, then the 3rd survey at the J-BILAT final seminar on 6th December 2012 to assess the level of awareness and opinion on the EU-Japan cooperation.

The results of the 2nd survey showed a high level of interest while the lack of information was still mentioned among the hurdles for participation in FP7. It was also found that the two biggest hurdles were the lack of funding and the language barrier, while Japanese participants found the collaboration with Europe useful to enlarge their network and scope of research and development. As the desirable area of cooperation with Europe, following areas were mentioned.

1. Standardisation
2. Sharing research infrastructures
3. Exchange of young researchers

What is the major advantage of the collaborative research?

The results of the 3rd survey were similar to the 2nd. It can be noted, that some commented that the variety of participants (not only researchers but also end-users) and activities (e.g. inclusion of outreach activities) were attractive.

3. Information service

The project website served to disseminate FP7 relevant information, announcement of surveys and events, and circulation of useful documents at the following URL:

<http://www.j-bilat.eu/>

Monthly newsletters in Japanese had been published, in the period of April 2010 and December 2012. More than 1250 contacts have been subscribed to the distribution list, while there were also requests for English version



Social Network Service was also used to maximize the outreach:

http://twitter.com/J_BILAT

4. Event organisation

To complement the information services, 15 events were organized in the project lifetime, 5 seminars (kick-off and 4 thematic) to introduce FP7 and status of cooperation (2010), 5 thematic workshops to share best practices and discuss issues related to international cooperation (2011), and 5 seminars on horizontal subjects like innovation, one of them as a training course for research administrators and project managers (2012). All the events with up-to-date information and unique structure were highly appreciated by the audience. In addition, J-BILAT participated in many events organized by others, international conferences, EU and Japanese project meetings, in-house seminars at private companies, invited lectures at ministries, etc.

2010: kick-off and thematic seminars	
Kick-off Tokyo, 14.4.2010 "Seminar for the promotion of EU-Japan S&T partnerships"	
	Seminars: • NMP • Environment • SSH • Health & biotech • Aeronautics • ICT
2011: thematic best practice workshops	
	Themes: ♦ ICT ♦ NMP ♦ Transport ♦ Health and biotechnology
2012: seminars on horizontal themes, a training course and the final seminar	
	Twin seminars: "EU/Japan Innovation Strategy and Cooperation in R&D", Tokyo, April Brussels, June
Final seminar Tokyo, 6.12.2012 "EU-Japan cooperation and various phases of Science, Technology and Innovation – Sharing vision and scope for reinforcement of reciprocity"	



Highlights of achievements Operation of a help desk Outreach

4. Help desk

J-BILAT help desk has been extensively used by researchers, research managers, policy makers, funding organizations, and others. Each month 10-30 enquiries were sent to the helpdesk. The services offered ranged from assistance in searching for information on FP7 and other programmes, funding opportunities in Europe and Japan, application for FP7, information on EU as well as Japanese S&T policies, partner search, among others. In June 2011, selected FP7 contractual documents and guidelines were translated into Japanese and offered as reference through the J-BILAT website.

Among others, following cases can be noted as examples of achievements of this activity:

- ★ It was identified that the lack of official translation of Japanese legal documents, including National University Act and Private Schools Act, lead to the situation that many entities needed to translate the same document and a lot of redundant efforts were made. J-BILAT help desk liaised with the relevant Japanese ministries (M) and requested for resolution. J-BILAT also provided a reference translation of National University Act.
- ★ Some mistakes and inconsistencies in the registration of Japanese legal entities. In some cases, J-BILAT was involved in the communication and negotiation.
- ★ A study of an interoperability of the Japanese registration system, e-Rad, and European counterpart, Participant Portal Registration Facility, has been made and proposed to the EC. Discussion has been escalated to DG BUDG and certain consideration has been made.
- ★ J-BILAT helped with European and Japanese side during the formation of projects on aeronautics and coordination between the two sides including the discussion on IPR related issues.
- ★ J-BILAT arranged meetings with proper participants, e.g. between the Japanese research organizations and companies and EC officers in charge of the relevant topics.

5. Interaction with media and other multipliers

In addition to the interaction with promotion multipliers including the S&T section of the European embassies, relevant and/or complementary FP7 projects, especially EURAXESS Links Japan, CONCERT-Japan (ERANET Japan), EUJO-LIMMS (INCOLAB) and EURASIAPAC (ICT), which has been intense since the launch of the project, J-BILAT media campaign was launched in March 2011. A few long articles on FP7 and beyond have been published and presentations have been made in may conferences and invited seminars at both public and private organizations. For example, an invited lecture was given to R&D managers of Japanese major companies, at the Sub-Committee on Policy Planning, Committee on Industrial Technology, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation).

<p>"Pan-European Programmes for the Promotion of Industry-Academia Cooperation: FP7 and Others", published in the Journal of the Japan Society for Science Policy and Research Management, Vol. 25, No.3/4 (2010)</p>	<p>"From FP7 to Horizon2020: Pan-European Programmes for R&D and Innovation and EU-Japan Cooperation" appeared in the Photonic Standardisation Newsletter No.96 (2012) from the Optoelectronics Industry and Technology Development Association(OITDA)</p>

J-BILAT also interacted with other EU projects, European NCPs and NCP organizations as well as INCONTACT project, in view of establishing a network of FP7 and Horizon2020 experts in Japan.



Final outcome and impacts

Project data

Final outcome and impact of the J-BILAT project

In summary, through the J-BILAT activities and services offered to Japanese and European stakeholders including research organizations, researchers, developers, managers and policy makers, the project achieved the following.

- ❖ Activities of the promotion of EU-Japan cooperation in science, technology and innovation have been recognized as a useful horizontal action.
- ❖ A strong and extensive network of Japanese organizations have been formed towards the cooperation with Europe.
- ❖ Awareness of FP7 and level of interests among Japanese researchers and research organizations have been assessed.
- ❖ The project greatly contributed to the better understanding of the FP7 and beyond by Japanese researchers and managers, policy makers and funding organizations.
- ❖ Key players for the EU-Japan cooperation in various technical as well as administrative fields have been identified.
- ❖ A set of reference data regarding the EU-Japan cooperation in science, technology and innovation have been generated.
- ❖ The merits of cooperation with Europe have been surveyed and summarized.
- ❖ Actual/potential problems or roadblocks have been identified. Actions have been taken or recommendation have been made to the proper organizations.
- ❖ Enhancement of the level of EU-Japan cooperation in science, technology and innovation

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation (part of the Institute for International Studies and Training) is maintaining the basic services after the end of the project for continuity and sustainability of the promotion of EU-Japan Cooperation in STI.

Project data

Project name	BILAT in Japan	Project acronym	J-BILAT
Period	1.1.2010 - 31.12.2012	Grant Agreement number	244310
Total cost	612,090 EUR	EC contribution	500,000 EUR
Website	http://www.j-bilat.eu/	Social media (Twitter)	http://twitter.com/J_BILAT

Contact details

Coordinator
Fabrizio MURA
E-mail: fabrizio.mura@eu-japan.gr.jp

Project manager
Toshiyasu ICHIOKA
E-mail: toshiyasu.ichioka@eu-japan.gr.jp

EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation /
Institute for International Studies and
Training

Head Office in Japan

1-27-6-4F, Shirokane, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 108-0072, Japan
Tel.: +81 - (0)3-6408-0281
Fax: +81 - (0)3-6408-0283

Office in the EU

Rue Marie de Bourgogne 52,
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 2 282 00 40
FAX: +32 2 282 00 45

URL: <http://www.eu-japan.eu/>



J-BILAT was
on Twitter



©2013 EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation