Memorandum of Cooperation
on
Japanese – German Graduate Externship
– International Research Training Groups –
between
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
and
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG)

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) (hereinafter referred to individually as “Participant” and collectively as “the Participants”), with a view to strengthening the joint researcher development system for doctoral students in Japanese and German university graduate courses, share the intention to implement the Japanese-German Graduate Externship (hereinafter referred to as “the programme”) as follows:

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as “this MoC”) is to promote a programme for enhanced exchange between universities and their researchers in Japan and Germany, and to promote coordinated joint research and researcher development.

II. Activities supported in the programme

The programme will support the following activities conducted between universities that reciprocally consent to building joint researcher development systems:

(1) Establishing an International Joint PhD Degree or Double PhD Degree programme in university doctoral courses
(2) Creating joint researcher development programmes to foster researchers in university doctoral courses
(3) Conducting joint researcher developmental activities in doctoral courses
(4) Planning and holding joint seminars by doctoral students
(5) Exchanging senior researchers within the programme

III. Implementation framework

(1) Each Participant will cover the expenses (e.g. travel costs, daily allowances etc.) of participating researchers and students from its own country, unless the Participants have otherwise decided upon in writing.
(2) Financial resources will be contributed by the Participants on the basis of availability of funds.
(3) Each Participant will cover the expenses of holding joint seminars in its own country.
(4) Both the participating students and universities will adhere to the laws and regulations of the counterpart country and universities.
(5) The Participants will select at most one project each year via consultation based on their respective review results of submitted proposals.
(6) At the end of each fiscal year and upon completion of the funded projects, the participating universities will submit a report to the Participants.
(7) The Participants will conduct a posterior evaluation after the completion of each project.

IV. Project duration

Each selected project will be funded for up to five years.

V. Intellectual property

The Participants have no claims on the intellectual property rights arising from the selected projects. The Participants encourage scientists and universities, receiving funds from the Participants, to enter into agreements to ensure the effective protection and adequate distribution of intellectual property and rights of use, resulting from projects funded by the Participants under this MoC.
VI. Details of implementation

Administrative procedures and implementation details not mentioned in this MoC will be decided separately via correspondence.

VII. Modification of MoC

This MoC will only be modified by the Participants' mutual consent in a document signed by both Participants specifying the dates on which the modifications will become part of the MoC.

VIII. Duration of MoC

The cooperation under this MoC will commence from the date on which it was signed. It will end three years after the signed date. Well in advance of the end of this MoC and after an evaluation of the cooperation, the Participants will decide on an extension of this MoC.

IX. Discontinuation of MoC

Notwithstanding the above matters, either Participant may discontinue this MoC during its cooperation period by giving six-month written notice to the other Participant.

X. Transition mechanism

The Discontinuation of this MoC will not affect activities already approved or in progress under this MoC.

XI. Resolution of problems

The Participants will settle all questions and problems arising under this MoC amicably by consultation and arrangement.

This MoC is drafted and signed in duplicate in English, both copies being equally authentic.
Signed by:

Date: 24 September 2021
SATOMI Susumu
President
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Date: 15/09/2021
Prof. Dr. Katja Becker
President
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V.

Date: 13/09/2021
Dr. Heide Ahrens
Secretary General