



A⁺ on our Scientific Research on Innovative Areas, "The academic research of radioactive nuclide environmental dynamics emitted at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster"

A⁺ evaluation was given by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) to the research area named "The academic research of radioactive nuclide environmental dynamics emitted at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster" in "Reports from research area director and Observations from Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research Review Committee on interim and ex-post assessment concerning FY2017 (H29) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (Research in a proposed research area)" on January 26th, 2018.

Evaluation Stages

There are three stages of evaluation, A⁻, A and A⁺. Each stage is given on the degrees of the achievement as follows; A⁻: concerning the set purpose of research areas, progress is mostly as expected, but some delay is recognized, A: concerning the set purpose of research areas, progress is as expected, A⁺: concerning the set purpose of research areas, progress is more than expected.

Findings on this Research Area

This study area is focused on getting a broad outline of radionuclides transition from the nuclear reactor due to Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster caused by the Japan earthquake and tsunami on March, 2011 and launched next year. In many cases, Scientific Research on Innovative Areas integrates different research areas and the process is based on the careful plans in advance. On the contrary, this Scientific Research on Innovative Areas captures progressing various problems precisely and handles flexibly in the bottom-up method rather than the top-down one. As a result, the academically high quality results are generated, and it is worth deserving acclaim.

It was pointed in the interim assessment result that some delays were found in certain research group. However, it is well covered by adding experts from different fields outside of the study area or establishing a new method by strengthening cooperation with other research groups within the same study area. Each research result is highly valuable and some of them are quite significant. In addition, collaboration of planning research is also functioning effectively, and it can be highly acclaimed that a meaningful activity such as a training program aimed at the growth of young researchers achieved success. Also, the outreach activities using media such as TV or newspaper were conducted, and attracting domestic and foreign interests is also worthy of high evaluation.

Contributing to publish comprehensive Japanese and English books and other activities successfully support to establish an innovative research area. The social concern on this research area objective is fairly deep and important. So, it is expected to continue to make efforts to summarize the whole result of this research area and disseminate it effectively to the world.

(Notes: Contents in this section are quoted and translated from page 61 and 62 in "Reports from research area director and Observations from Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research Review Committee on interim and ex-post assessment concerning FY2017 (H29) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (Research in a proposed research area)")

Praises on the A⁺

Many co-workers praised the A+ and celebration messages are posted to the ML.

Congratulations! Many researchers from various field joined together and Prof. Onda worked as an excellent organizer. This evaluation may strongly push this research to reach higher progress.

(from Director & Prof. Uematsu at Center for International Collaboration Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, the University of Tokyo)

Just impressed by the wonderful result. May this research area become a new academic area.

(from Ph.D Shibata at Chiyoda Technol Corporation Oarai Research Center)

Happy to hear the good news. I am proud of joining the project and feel great on the evaluation. Unique researchers from various field joined together and the director, Prof. Onda, led us to the All-Japan result. I wish your continuous efforts for Fukushima.

(from Ph.D Honda at JAMSTEC)

Receiving the A⁺, Prof. Onda gives huge thanks for everyone participating in the research and said "The research results will be shown at the upcoming symposium titled "Recovery progress of radiation contaminated environment after seven years from Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster". "I would like to continue the project in cooperation with many co-workers", He also added.

References

- 【Ministry of Education】 The list of 22 research areas for ex-post assessment in H29 (Japanese only)
- 【Ministry of Education】 Reports from research area director and Observations from Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research Review Committee on interim and ex-post assessment concerning FY2017 (H29) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (Research in a proposed research area) (On page 61 and 62, PDF:2,176KB, Japanese only)



Upcoming Schedule

- Book (University of Tokyo Press, 2014) writing about research of environmental contamination from FDNPP and a lesson from community was published, and the English version will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2018.
- Our research results have been on permanent display since March 2016 with a cooperation with National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan). The symposium for the public is scheduled on March 10th in 2018.