Tohoku University's Accreditation as a University for International Research Excellence

Tohoku University was accredited as a 'University for International Research Excellence' in November 2024.
The Universities for International Research Excellence project accredits universities that are expected to produce internationally outstanding research and to apply the outcomes of that research to effect socioeconomic changes. Subsidies from a government-established 10 trillion yen University Endowment Fund are to be provided for Research System Strengthening Plans at accredited universities, including Tohoku University.
This initiative will facilitate the enhancement of research environments and the acquisition of talented personnel at Universities for International Research Excellence and form a virtuous cycle of intellectual value creation. It will thereby lead Japan's academic research networks and help to realize research universities that rank among world-class research universities in other countries.

Overview of Tohoku University's Research System Strengthening Plan as a University for International Research Excellence

In its Research System Strengthening Plan, Tohoku University has outlined 19 strategies to accomplish six goals, which include creating a campus for aspiring minds and achieving full-scale global readiness, under three commitments: Impact, Talent, and Change.

Commitment for Impact

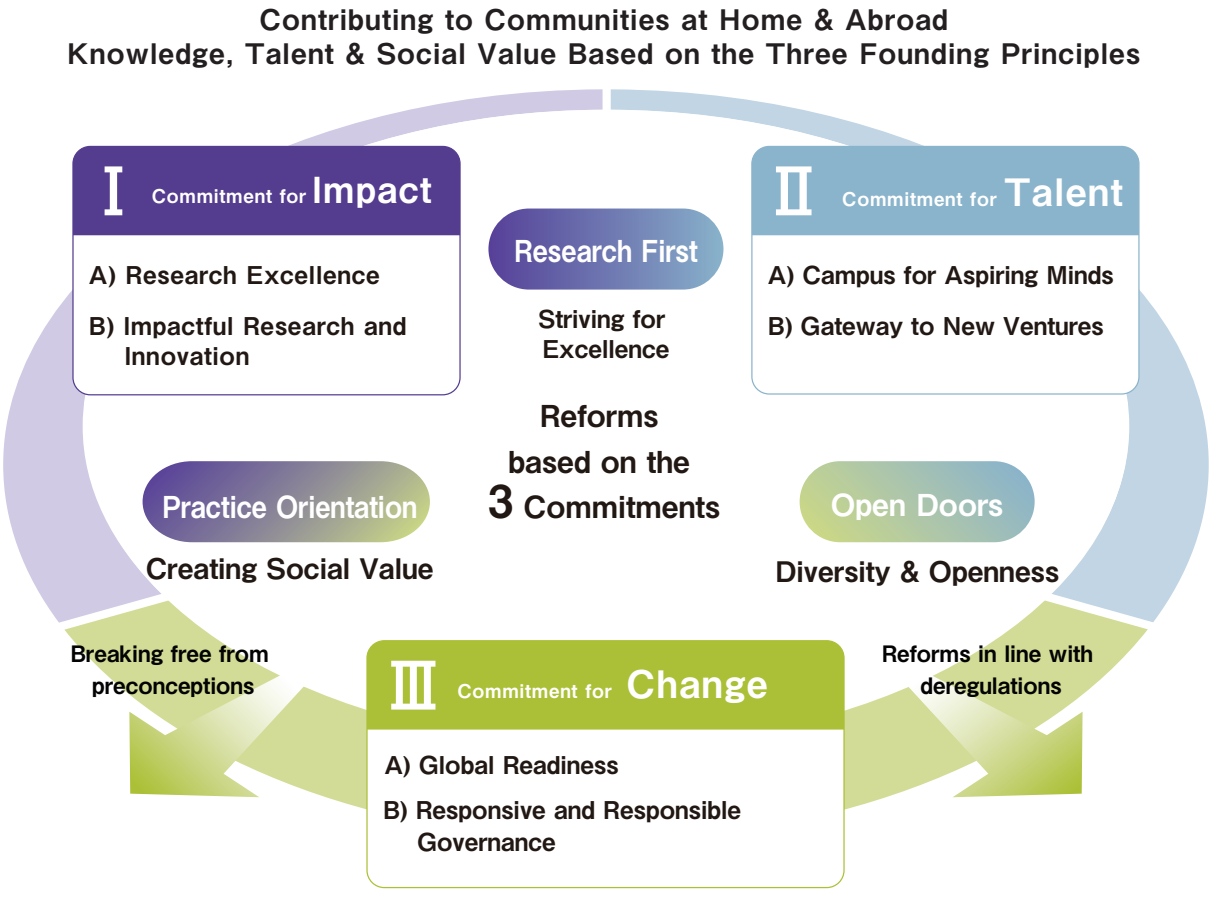
Based on our founding principles of 'Research First' and 'Practice-oriented Research & Education,' and drawing on the experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake, we will uncompromisingly pursue research excellence and create social value.

Commitment for Talent

Adhering to the spirit of 'Open Doors,' by which we accepted the first female students in Japan and broke conventions, we will attract diverse talent from around the world, nurture their potential, and contribute to a better future for everybody.

Commitment for Change

We aim to enhance our management and governance structure with a determination to boldly face challenges without fear of change, continuously reviewing and reforming our organization in adapting to future requirements.



Commitments	Goals & Priority KPIs	Strategies
Ⅰ. Commitment for Impact We live in highly challenging times of rapid change that require global communities to overcome ever-new difficulties. Contributions to communities after the Great East Japan Earthquake crystalized the necessity to help not only local communities but people all over the world with new innovations that improve everyday life. Tohoku University's members are committed to address society's most pressing issues through their excellence in pioneering research.	**A Research Excellence** ・Publications ・Top 10% Publications ・Top 10% Publication Ratio ・Top 10% Publications by Early Career Researchers ・Top 10% Publication Ratio by Early Career Researchers	Ⅰ-A-1 Excellence through solid research strategy Ⅰ-A-2 Tohoku University's unique "3-layered Research Enhancement Package" Ⅰ-A-3 A dynamic new research system
	B Impactful Research & Innovation ・Research funds from private companies ・Industry co-creation centers ・Number of university startups ・IP revenue ・Joint publications with industry	Ⅰ-B-1 Creating an open knowledge action platform Ⅰ-B-2 Attracting investments through science, technology and innovation Ⅰ-B-3 Improved functionality for co-creation
Ⅱ. Commitment for Talent Tohoku University is committed to partner with international communities to foster and educate the next generation of brilliant researchers. Diversity of talent on campus is essential for the individual growth and well-being of each and every member of our university.	**A Campus for Aspiring Minds** ・Ratio of international researchers ・Ratio of female researchers ・PI research units ・Ratio of PIs and staff members ・Staff with international expertise	Ⅱ-A-1 Attractive career paths & benefits for researchers Ⅱ-A-2 Specialization & enhanced roles of administrative staff Ⅱ-A-3 A diverse campus supporting world-class challenges
	B Gateway to New Venture ・International student ratio ・Ratio of Ph.D. Students with international experience ・Average financial support for Ph.D. students ・Ph.D. student numbers ・Ph.D.s conferred	Ⅱ-B-1 Career management starting at graduate schools Ⅱ-B-2 Graduate school reforms for internationality and openness Ⅱ-B-3 Faculty reforms as research university
Ⅲ. Commitment for Change Members of the Tohoku University family are engaged in various outreach programs to provide the latest improvements to people's lives. Tohoku University is committed to continue its governance transformation and strategic regulation reforms to further enable and support its member's desire to help communities all over the world.	**A Global Readiness** ・Ratio of international researchers ・Staff with international expertise ・International student ratio ・Ratio of Ph.D. Students with international experience ・International executives	Ⅲ-A-1 Promoting comprehensive internationalization Ⅲ-A-2 Intentional brain circulation Ⅲ-A-3 Creating an international hub for global co-creation
	B Responsive & Responsible Governance ・Self-generated income ・Business scale ・Own fund ・Corporate strategic financing ・International executives	Ⅲ-B-1 Management focused on growth and new challenges Ⅲ-B-2 Advanced governance structure Ⅲ-B-3 Management for actions and growth Ⅲ-B-4 Supporting diverse talent