Open Innovation Platforms for Industry-academia Co-creation (COI-NEXT)

JST project "Open Innovation Platforms for Industry-academia Co-creation (COI-NEXT)", universities and other institutions play a central role in formulating a vision of the future society and promoting research and development to realize it. This is an industry-academia collaboration program that aims to form an independent industry-academia-government co-creation base that produces sustainable results. Through this program, under the co-creation with various stakeholders such as companies, local governments, citizens, etc., the university will conduct research and development that contributes to innovation by backcasting toward the achievement of the hub vision and global issues (regional issues in the field of regional co-creation), and simultaneously promote the establishment of an industry-academia-government collaboration management system necessary for the formation of a self-reliant and sustainable base.

Three projects from our university have been selected for this project.

Theme	Name	Project leader	Vision
Co-creation area (Full-scale type) Adopted in 2022 Maximum of 10 years (FY2022-FY2031)	Co-Creation Center of "Visible" Empowerment for Social Connectedness and Self-Realization	Graduate School of Medicine Professor. Toru Nakazawa	Our vision is to create a society in which everyone can live, work, and play together at any stage of their lives, so that the children of the next generation can be proud of it.
Regional co-creation area (Full-scale type) Adopted in 2023 Maximum of 10 years (FY2023-FY2032)	A co-creation base for fostering a green job market based on gastronomic geopolitics	Graduate School of Environmental Studies Professor. Kazuyo Matsubae	Our vision is to realize a food supply chain that adapts to climate change, nurture connections between people across generations, and realize a community co-creation society where people can live in harmony with nature.
Co-creation area (Full-scale type) Adopted in 2024 Maximum of 10 years (FY2024-FY2033)	Nature positive growth society realization base	Graduate School of Life Sciences Professor. Michio Kondoh	Our vision is "a nature-positive developmental society where people and nature nurture each other." Attain a society harmonized with nature, where every individual and community recognizes the value of nature and biodiversity, proudly taking actions to sustain and enjoy their abundant benefits.

Moonshot Research and Development Program

The Moonshot Research and Development Program led by the Cabinet Office is a large-scale national research and development program with funding of over 100 billion yen for up to 10 years. It aims to link the results of original basic research originating in Japan to 'disruptive innovation'. The purpose is not to expand upon existing technology, but to conduct challenging research and development based on daring ideas.

Tohoku University has adopted eight projects for this program as of April 1, 2025. By participating in the program through the selected projects, Tohoku University will contribute to building a society where well-being can be realized.

<Moonshot Goal>

- MS Goal 1 Realization of a society in which human beings can be free from limitations of body, brain, space, and time by 2050.
- MS Goal 2 Realization of ultra-early disease prediction and intervention by 2050.
- MS Goal 3 Realization of AI robots that autonomously learn, adapt to their environment, evolve in intelligence and act alongside human beings, by 2050.
- MS Goal 4 Realization of sustainable resource circulation to recover the global environment by 2050.
- MS Goal 5 Creation of the industry that enables sustainable global food supply by exploiting unused biological resources by 2050.
- MS Goal 6 Realization of a fault-tolerant universal quantum computer that will revolutionize economy, industry, and security by 2050.
- MS Goal 7 Realization of sustainable care systems to overcome major diseases by 2040, for enjoying one's life with relief and release from health concerns until 100 years old
- MS Goal 8 Realization of a society safe from the threat of extreme winds and rains by controlling and modifying the weather by 2050.
- MS Goal 9 Realization of a mentally healthy and dynamic society by increasing peace of mind and vitality by 2050.
- MS Goal10 Realization of a dynamic society in harmony with the global environment and free from resource constraints, through diverse applications of fusion energy, by 2050.

Eight projects from our university have been selected for this project.

Moonshot Goal	Project Manager	Research Subject
MS Goal2	Graduate School of Medicine Professor. Hideki Katagiri	Challenge for Eradication of Diabetes and Comorbidities through Understanding and Manipulating Homeostatic Systems
MS Goal3	Graduate School of Engineering Professor. Yasuhisa Hirata	Adaptable AI-enabled Robots to Create a Vibrant Society
MS Goal3	Graduate School of Engineering Professor. Kazuya Yoshida	Self-Evolving AI Robot System for Lunar Exploration and Human Outpost Construction
MS Goal4	Graduate School of Life Sciences Project Professor. Kiwamu Minamisawa	Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural lands by optimizing nitrogen and carbon cycles
MS Goal4	Graduate School of Environmental Studies Professor. Yasuhiro Fukushima	Development of Combined Carbon Capture and Conversion (quad-C) modules targeting low carbon dioxide concentration gases for balancing the global carbon budget (FY2020-FY2023)
MS Goal7	Graduate School of Biomedical Engineering /Graduate School of Medicine Professor. Takaaki Abe	Mitochondrial Medicine
MS Goal9	Graduate School of Life Sciences Professor. Kenichiro Tsutsui	Development of "At-will Translator" connecting various minds based on brain and body functions.
MS Goal9	Graduate school of information science Associate Professor, Chihiro Hosoda	Child care commons : Proposing social infrastructure allowing others to substitute parental roles