

# **Challenges of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI)**

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# Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI)

= **Kagaku**  
**Kenkyuhi**  
**Hojoyokin**

# Content

1. What is “KAKENHI” ?
  
2. System Reform of KAKENHI
  - (a) Countermeasures against misuse
  - (b) Effective and efficient use
  - (c) Accountability and transparency
  
3. Hot Issues

# What is “KAKENHI” ? (1)

## - Biggest funding program in Japan

KAKENHI in FY2008 amounts to 193.2 billion yen (1.2 billion EURO)

- 5% of overall government expenses related to science and technology
- 40% of overall competitive research funds

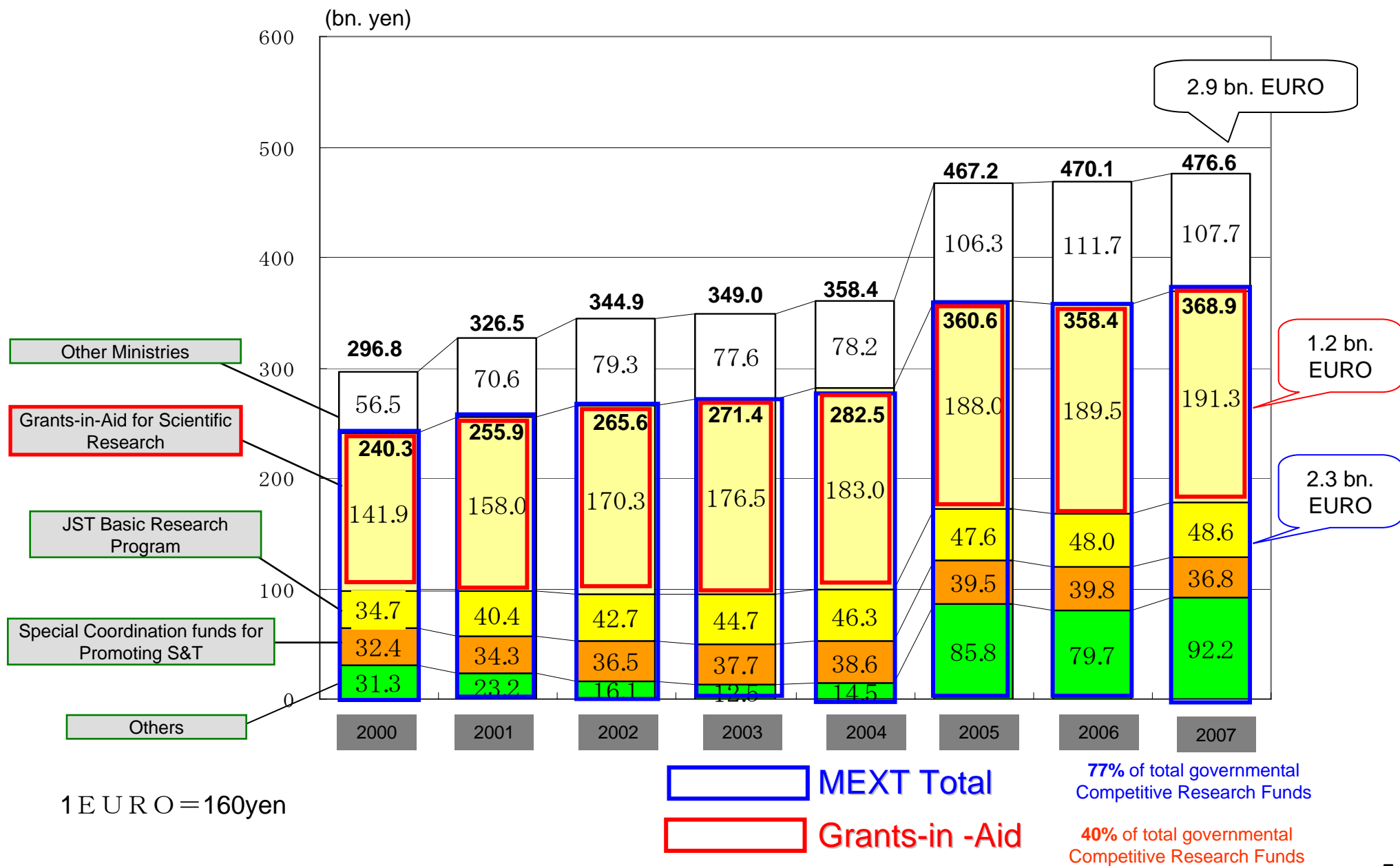
## - 100,000 new applications

**24,000 new proposals selected**

**(selection ratios of new proposals: 24%) (FY2007)**

## - Over 56,000 research projects are supported by KAKENHI. (FY2007)

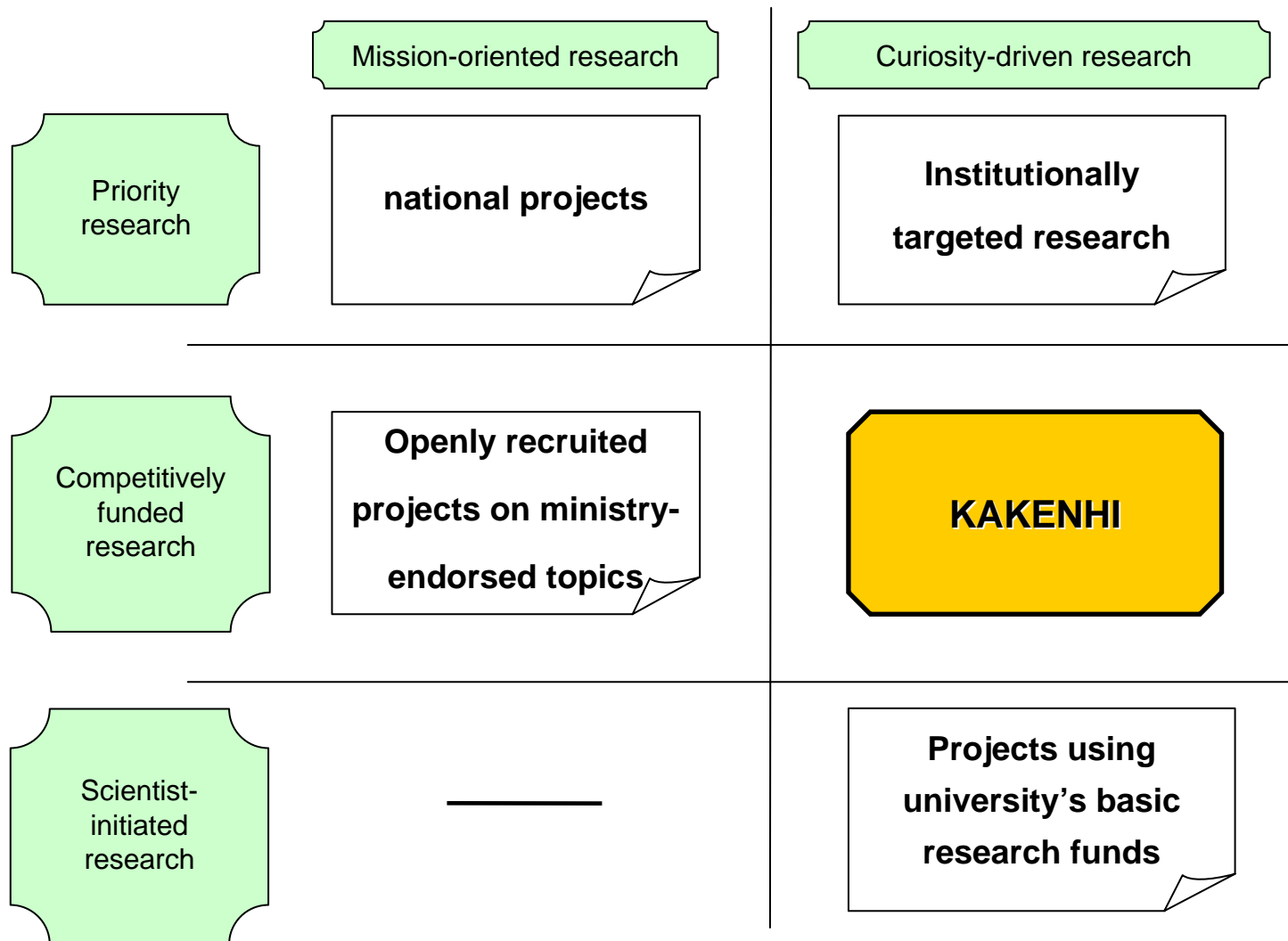
# Time-trend of Competitive Research Funds



## What is “KAKENHI” ? (2)

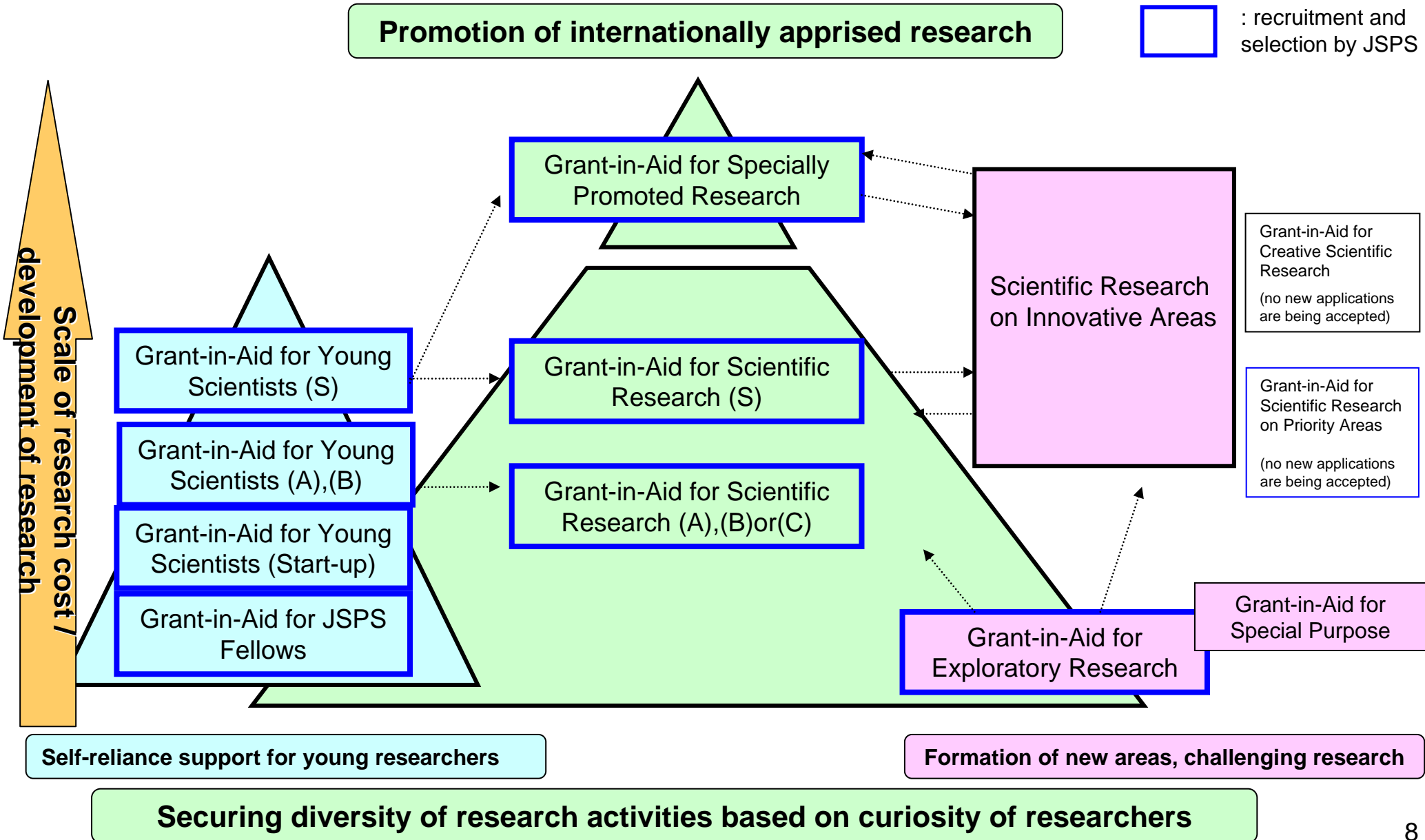
- **KAKENHI covers all research fields including the social sciences and the humanities.**
- **KAKENHI supports “curiosity-driven research” (research based on researcher’s creative ideas) .**
- **Almost all the researchers in Japan can apply to KAKENHI.**
- **Peer review (6,000 reviewers)**
- **Selection and grant disbursement: by MEXT and JSPS**

# Position of KAKENHI within government's research framework



# Categories for KAKENHI (FY2008)

Various grant categories are provided based on the objective and nature of the research.





# Content

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2. System Reform of KAKENHI

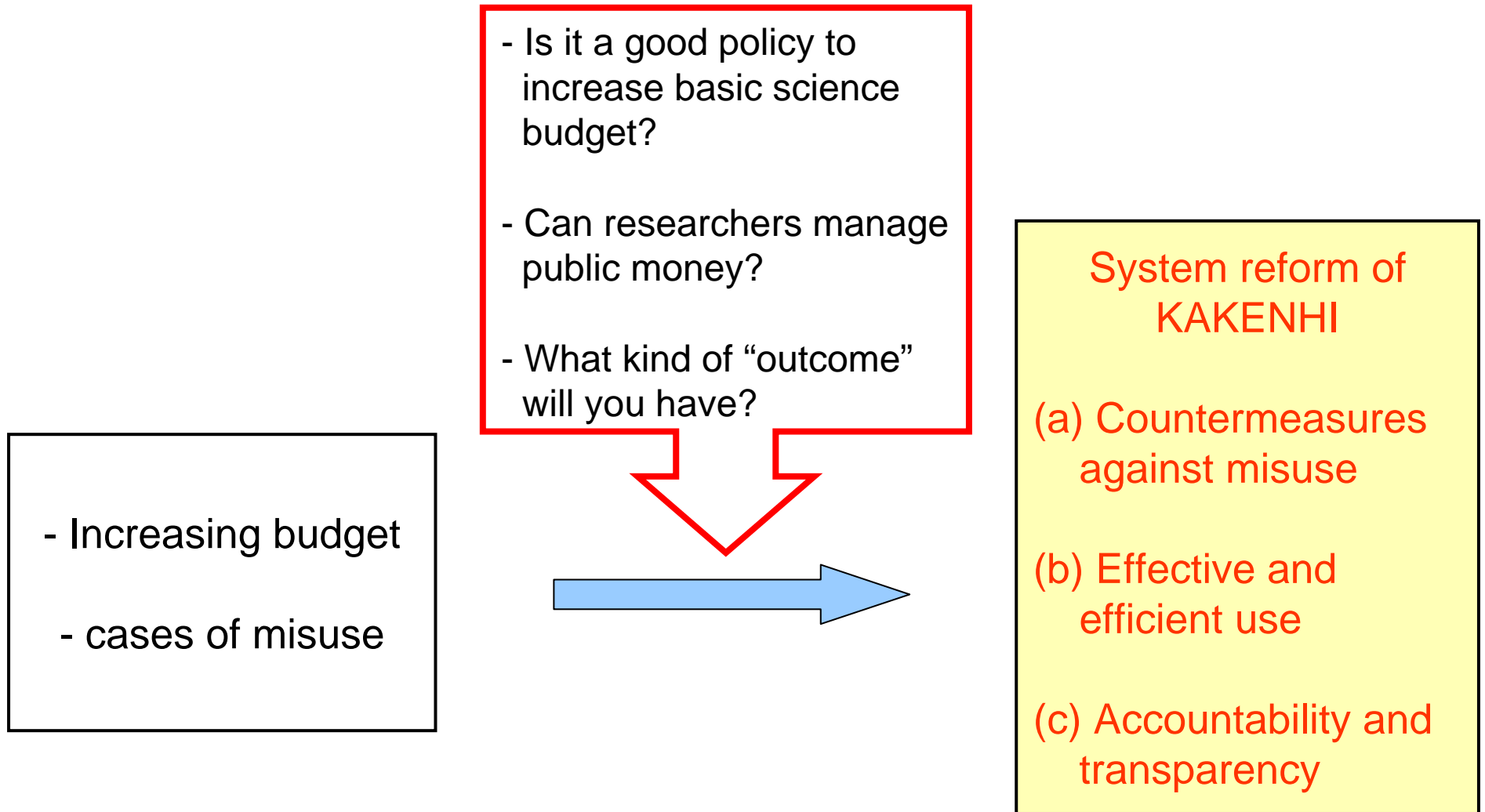
(a) Countermeasures against misuse

(b) Effective and efficient use

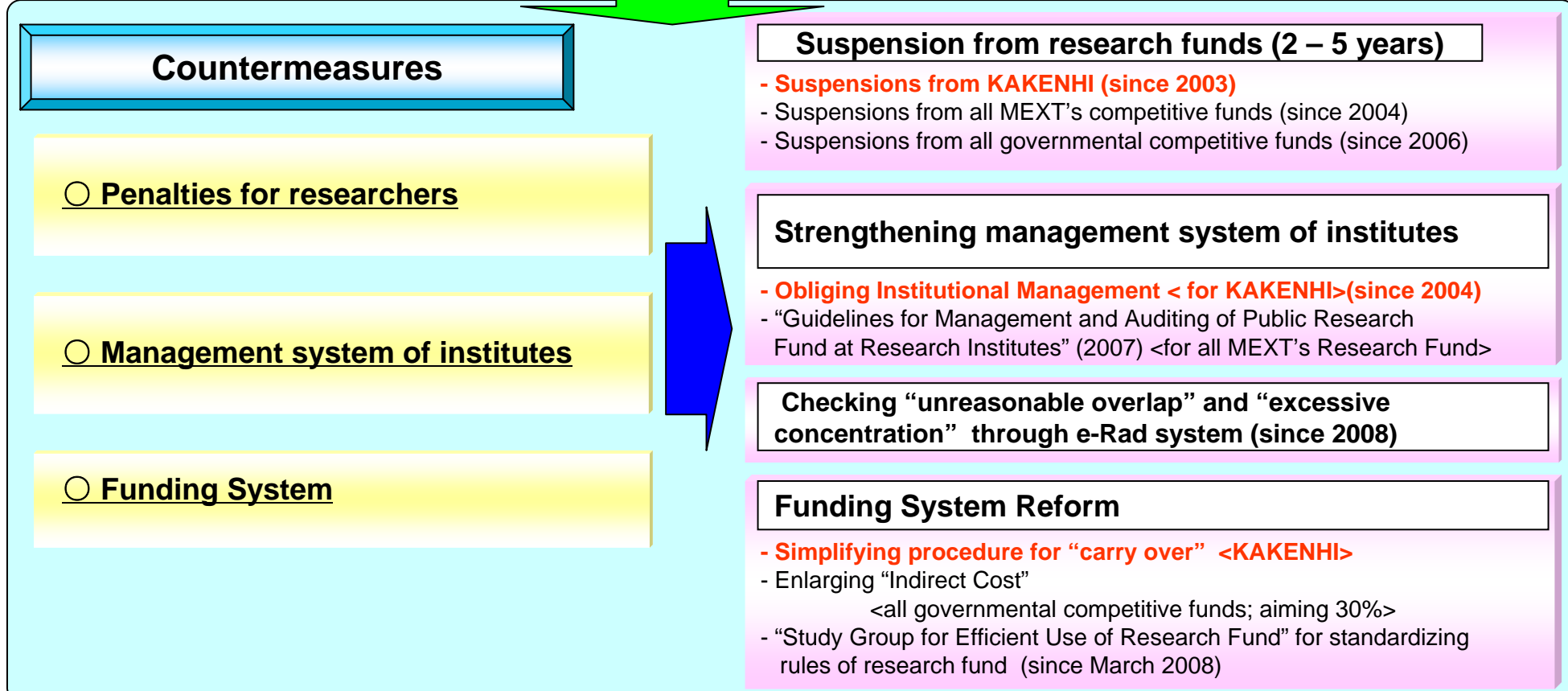
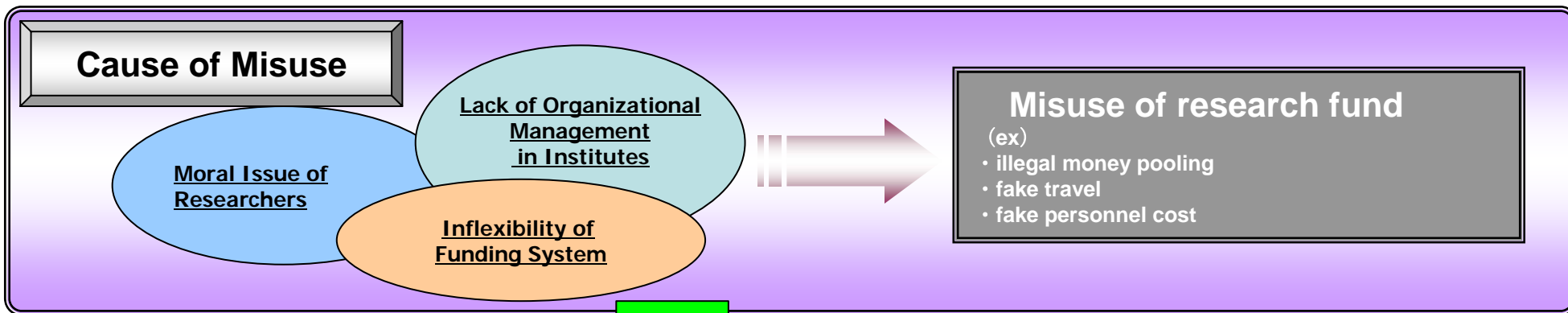
(c) Accountability and transparency

3. Hot Issues

# System Reform of KAKENHI



# (a) Countermeasures against misuse



## (b) Effective and efficient use

### - **System reform of KAKENHI**

#### <Simplifying procedure for “carry over”>

A research activity cannot be completed within the year for an un expected reason

- - the research period can be extended
- the grant can be carried forward to the next fiscal year

#### <Changing the breakdown of use>

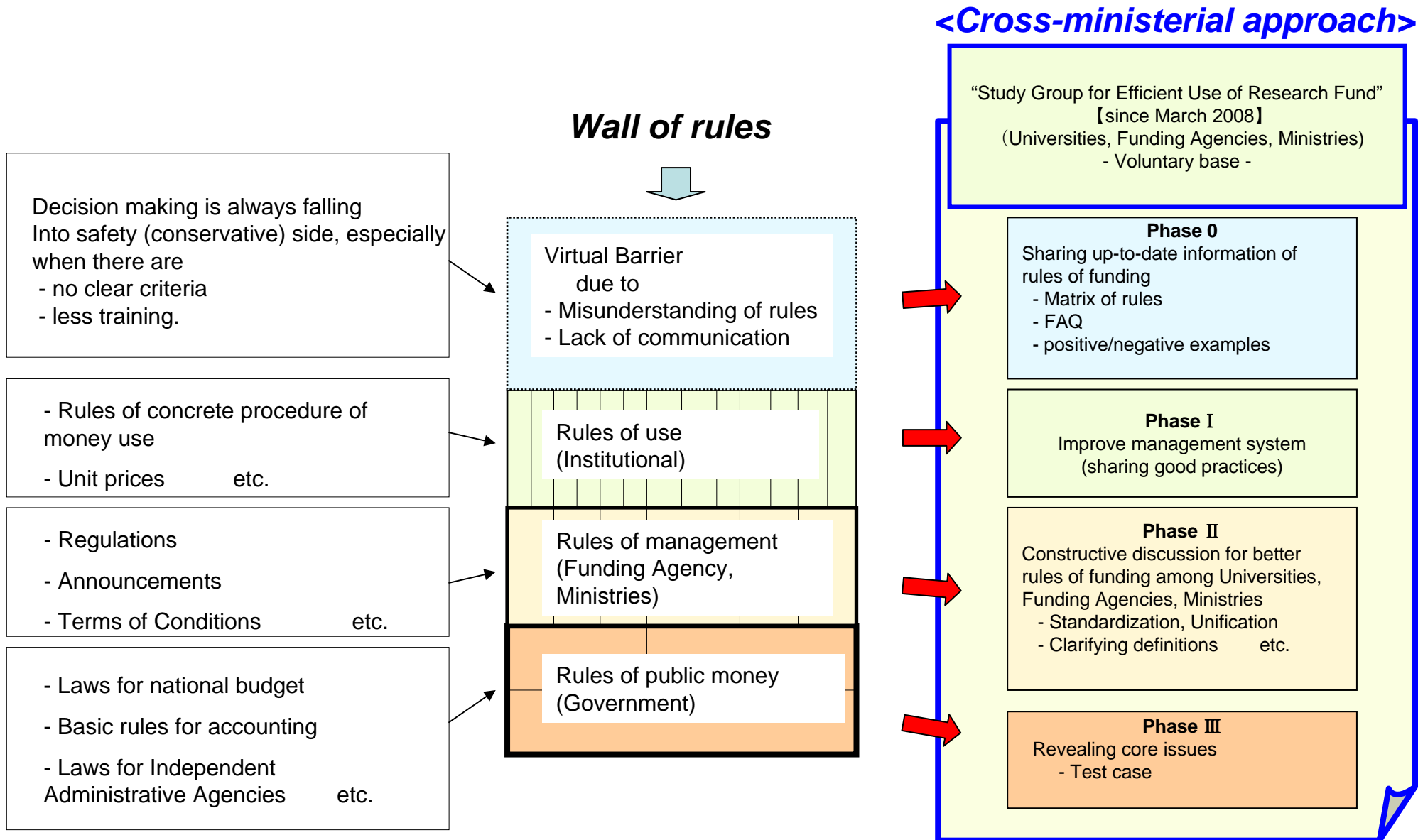
Breakdown of use of the initially set expenses can be freely changed to a reasonable extent

(~ FY2007: 30%      FY2008 ~ : under 50%)

### - **Cross-ministerial approach**

“Study Group for Efficient Use of Research Fund”

# Wall of rules for Research Funding



## (c) Accountability and transparency

### - **Open access to research results**

<Retrieval of yearly progress reports on the website>

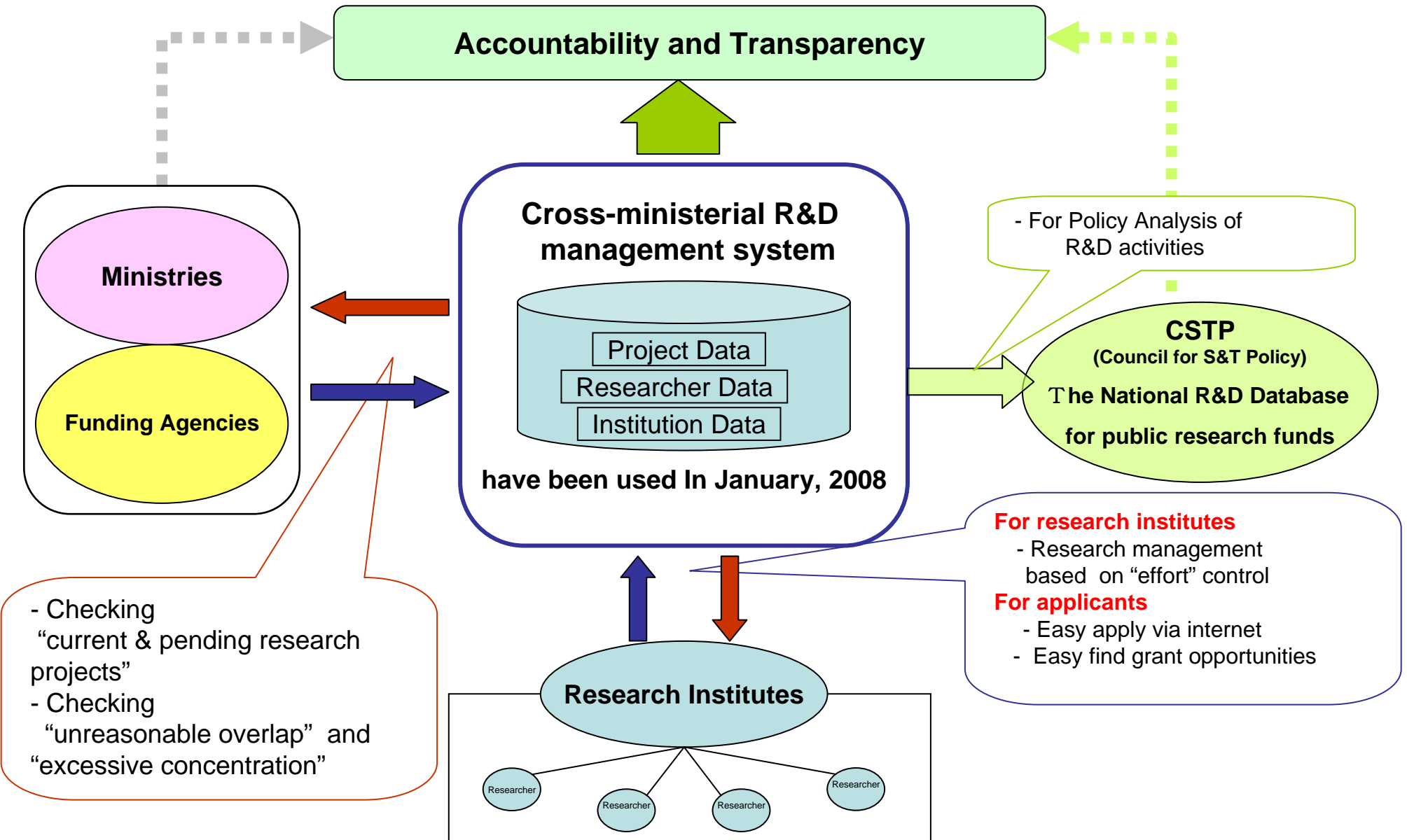
Reports of research progress supported by KAKENHI are available using on-line search function. (<http://seika.nii.ac.jp>)

<Welcome to University Lab –Science That Inspires and Inspirits>

School children visit and experience firsthand a university laboratory.

→ The results of research supported by KAKENHI are described in easy-to-understand language.

# Cross-ministerial R&D management system (e-Rad)



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# Hot Issues

## - New category for innovating and challenging research

### “Scientific Research on Innovative Areas” (FY2008~)

- To support the research which could lead a breakthrough but uncertain of success
- “Masking” screening (trial)  
(reviewers do not have applicant’s name, institute, past achievement etc.)