

SATREPS Evaluation Criteria

In addition to scientific and technological excellence, proposals are comprehensively evaluated based on the development needs of partner countries, consistency with Official Development Assistance (ODA) policies, and the potential for social implementation. Major Evaluation Items and Perspectives:

Alignment with Program Objectives and Partner Country Needs

Whether the project contributes to addressing global challenges and aligns with the partner country's development needs as well as its government policies and ODA requests.

Scientific and Technological Significance and Advantage

Whether the research demonstrates originality, novelty, high academic and international standards, and has the potential for significant future impact.

Appropriateness and Feasibility of the Plan

Whether the objectives, methodologies, research framework, and budget are appropriate and realistically achievable.

Plan and Feasibility of Social Implementation

How the research outcomes will contribute to solving challenges in developing countries and the international community, including pathways toward implementation and practical application.

Prospects for Sustainable Development

Whether there is a clear vision and institutional framework that enables continuous and self-reliant development in the partner country after project completion.

The Actual Process of SATREPS Evaluation

The evaluation process consists of two (2) stages: one conducted by JICA, which focuses on the impact of **social implementation**, and another conducted by JST/AMED, which focuses on **scientific and technological innovation**.

This two-stage screening process makes it a highly competitive selection, with only **12** proposals chosen from over **80** submissions.

JICA has compiled a database of hundreds of past proposal evaluations and is examining strategies to foster projects with greater social impact. It has become clear that proposals that effectively address the following two points have consistently received high evaluations and led to acceptance.

Basic Structure of the Research Plan

Consistent with the host country's national strategies, policies, and systems, as well as the international cooperation policies of the Japanese government and JICA (such as the JICA Global Agenda).

Bilateral Joint Research Framework

It is important not only to explain the framework for joint research but also to highlight past achievements, such as support for joint research provided through JICA projects and collaborations utilizing schemes offered by JST, JSPS, and other organizations.

How to Develop Successful SATREPS Projects: Checklist Based on Analysis of Past Project Evaluations

		Typical Issues in Unsuccessful Proposals	Key Considerations for Successful Proposals
Basic Structure of the Proposal	Selection of Research Target	Prioritizing the use of proprietary technology / Research challenges remain limited to researchers' interests / The connection to the partner country's policies is unclear	Consistent with the partner country's national strategies, policies, and systems, as well as the international cooperation policies of the Japanese government and JICA (such as the JICA Global Agenda)
	The Relationship between Research and Social Implementation	It's just tacked on at the end	It is fully integrated into the overall plan, and quantitative metrics (KPIs) have been set at just the right level
Scientific and Technological Novelty (Key Points in JST/AMED Evaluations)	Emphasizing and Evaluating Novelty	Emphasize the significance of research and development based on the novelty and originality of individual technologies and methods	The study explicitly highlights its novelty by examining not only individual technologies and methods but also concrete outputs within a single research framework, and incorporates quantitative assessments of economic viability and sustainability.
Social Implementation (Key Points in JICA Evaluation)	Entities Responsible for Social Implementation	It is unclear where the technology will be applied and who will be responsible for its implementation	The key players (government, private sector, and public institutions), the form, and the targets (systems, projects, and markets) of social implementation are clearly defined.
Collaborative Research Framework	The Role of Researchers in Partner Countries	Remain as a data provider	Actively engage in research design, analysis, and interpretation, and serve as the primary entity responsible for the societal implementation of the research outcomes
	Status of Collaboration	The description is limited to the progress of discussions regarding collaboration	It is important not only to explain the framework for joint research but also to highlight past achievements, such as support for joint research provided through JICA projects and collaborations utilizing schemes offered by JST, JSPS, and other organizations.
Human Resource Development	The Goals of Human Resource Development	Simply aiming to cultivate talented individuals and researchers	The program is designed to foster core talent and ensure that project operations, education, and training can continue even after the project period ends

Recommendation: To increase the number of SATREPS projects accepted from Malaysia

- Of the two-stage evaluation process, in order to improve JICA's evaluation, it is important for researchers to understand the international cooperation policies of the Japanese government and JICA, and to demonstrate a track record of collaboration between Malaysia and Japan supported by past JICA projects and other initiatives.