

Basic Policy on Data Management in NEDO Moonshot Research and Development Program

To accomplish the objectives of this project and promote the effective utilization of the research and development data obtained or collected through this project, NEDO and project participants must implement the following data management in this project.

In addition, this project shall comply with the Guidelines for Operation and Evaluation of the Moonshot R&D Program.

However, matters that are not described in this policy shall be determined as needed based on the purpose of each project and agreement made between the project manager and project participants.

According to this policy, the project manager and project participants shall agree on the handling of research and development results and prepare a data management plan by the launch of this project (the conclusion of the entrustment contract), unless the circumstances are exceptional.

In preparing an agreement on data handling between the project participants (hereinafter referred to as "Data Agreement") and the data management plan, NEDO and project participants should refer to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's Guidelines for Intellectual Property Management in Government - commissioned Research and Development, Supplement: Guidelines for Data Management in Government - commissioned Research and Development (December 2017).

1. Definitions of the terms used in this policy

(1) Research and development data

"Research and development data" refers to electromagnetic records obtained or collected in research and development activities (electromagnetic records: records used in computerized information processing, which are created in electronic form, magnetic form, or any other forms that cannot be perceived by the human senses).

(2) Self-managed data (data subject to management)

"Self-managed data" refers to research and development data that the project participants manage voluntarily.

(3) Unmanaged data

“Unmanaged data” refers to research and development data that do not fall under self-managed data or require special management.

2. Essential points of research and development data in these research and development activities

(1) Self-managed data

Concerning self-managed data, the project manager and the project participants who obtained or collected such data shall primarily determine the management policy on the data. However, they should try to promote the utilization of the data for their various purposes and applications, or they should provide the data to other parties.

3. Matters that NEDO and the entrustees should promise

(1) Reporting of index information published in data catalog

The project participants shall agree that they will report their self-managed data (hereinafter referred to as, “Metadata”) to NEDO, and that NEDO will put the Metadata in the public, shared, and non-public data catalogs that NEDO will prepare.

(2) Submission of data management plan

The project manager and entrustees shall submit a data management plan for their self-managed data to NEDO.

Unless the circumstances are exceptional, the project manager and entrustees shall submit the data management plan to NEDO by the launch of the project. However, if obtaining or collecting data before the start of the project seems to be challenging, the project manager and entrustees shall submit the data management plan to NEDO when such an arrangement seems to become possible.

(3) Additional submission of and corrections to data management plan

When having obtained and collected initially unexpected data after the launch of the project, the project manager and entrustees shall submit additional or corrected data management plans to NEDO as needed, even during the research and development project period.

(4) The entrustees shall submit their data management plan and Metadata to NEDO using the form NEDO will specify separately.

4. Matters that should be stipulated in data agreement between project participants

(1) Development of data management system

The Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings shall be provided with a data management function to manage self-managed data appropriately according to this policy.

The Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings shall be tasked with the identification of research and development data that require management, the determination of the formats of research and development data, the provision of data, the determination of concealment policy, the coordination of conditions on the permission for using research and development data, and so on.

(2) Prior approval for disclosing this project's research and development data to third parties¹

Of the research and development data obtained or collected through the implementation of this project, self-managed data must not be disclosed or leaked to third parties other than the project participants without obtaining approval from the Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings. However, the utilization of the research and development data approved by the Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings shall be promoted extensively.

(3) Preparation of data management plan and permission for using research and development data

The project manager and project participants shall prepare their data management plan for submission to NEDO and the Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings. They shall manage their research and development data according to the data management plan. As research and development activities progress, the project manager and project participants shall modify their data management plan as needed for submission to NEDO and the Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings.

The permission for using research and development data shall be provided according to the data management plan. The negotiations between the concerned parties may become tangled concerning the scope of research and development data, usage fees, and other matters, which might interfere with the commercialization of technical results from the project. In such a case, the Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings shall conduct necessary coordination for the concerned parties to be able to solve the problems rationally.

(4) Permission for using research and development data to support research and development during the project or the commercialization of the project's technical results

The project participants shall provide permission for using necessary research and development data free of charge, or for reasonable usage fees, to support activities by other project participants in the same project and during the project period, or in support of activities to commercialize the project's technical results. (This requirement does not apply if there are separate agreements between the project participants to provide permission for using self-managed data on a charge basis.) However, if providing permission for using research and development data is expected to affect the existing and future business activities of the party that granted the permission, this participant shall be able to deny a request for permission. Also, the scope accepted as an exception (particularly the data each project participant brought in to implement the project) shall be defined as needed based on agreement between the project participants.

The negotiations between the concerned parties may become tangled concerning the scope of research and development data, usage fees, and other matters, which might interfere with the commercialization of technical results from the project. In such a case, the Intellectual Property Management Committee Meetings shall conduct coordination for the concerned parties to be able to solve the problems rationally.

Supplemental Provision

The Japanese language version of this policy shall be the authentic text. Even if an English language version is created for reference purposes, only the authentic text of the Japanese version shall be effective, and the English translation shall not have any force thereon.

¹ Providing research and development data containing personal data to other parties would require consent from the individuals and data processing so that specific individuals involved cannot be identified. In processing such data, the project participants shall make sure to give ample consideration to laws, regulations, and guidelines. In managing self-managed data, you should be aware that the self-managed data need to be managed as "trade secrets" defined in the Unfair Competition Prevention Act so that you can enjoy the protection under the Act.