

Message from Science Council of Japan

Science Council of Japan

210 members

General assembly

2,000 associate members

840,000 scientists in Japan

Yasushi Suto

vice-chair of Astronomy & Astrophysics subcommittee

Science Council of Japan

SPICA Science Conference 2013, 18-21 June, Tokyo, Japan

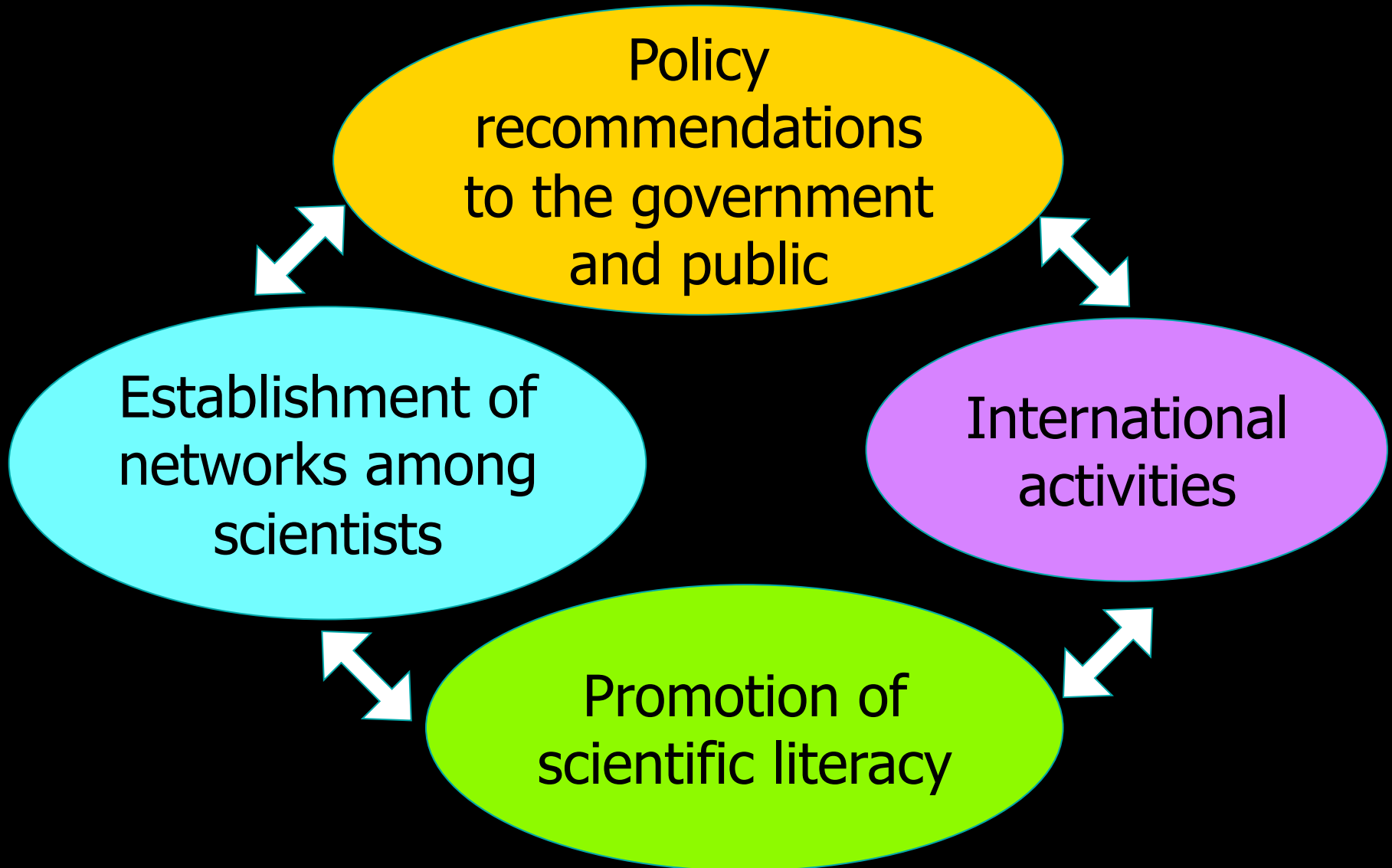
From Exoplanets to Distant Galaxies:

SPICA's New Window on the Cool Universe

SCJ: Science Council of Japan

- Science Council of Japan (SCJ) is the organization that **represents the Japanese scientist community including humanities, social sciences, life sciences, natural sciences, and engineering.**
- SCJ was established in January 1949 as a "special organization" under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, operating independently of the government.
- Its purpose is to **promote and enhance the entire science activity (education and research)** properly in administration, industries and citizens.

Function of SCJ



Organization of SCJ

Science Council of
Japan

210 members
**General
assembly**

2,000 associate
members

**840,000
scientists**

President + 3 vice-presidents

Executive board

3 Sections

Section 1: Humanities and
Social Sciences (72 members)

Section 2: Life Sciences (67)

Section 3: Physical Sciences
and Engineering (71)

**30 committees
representing different fields**

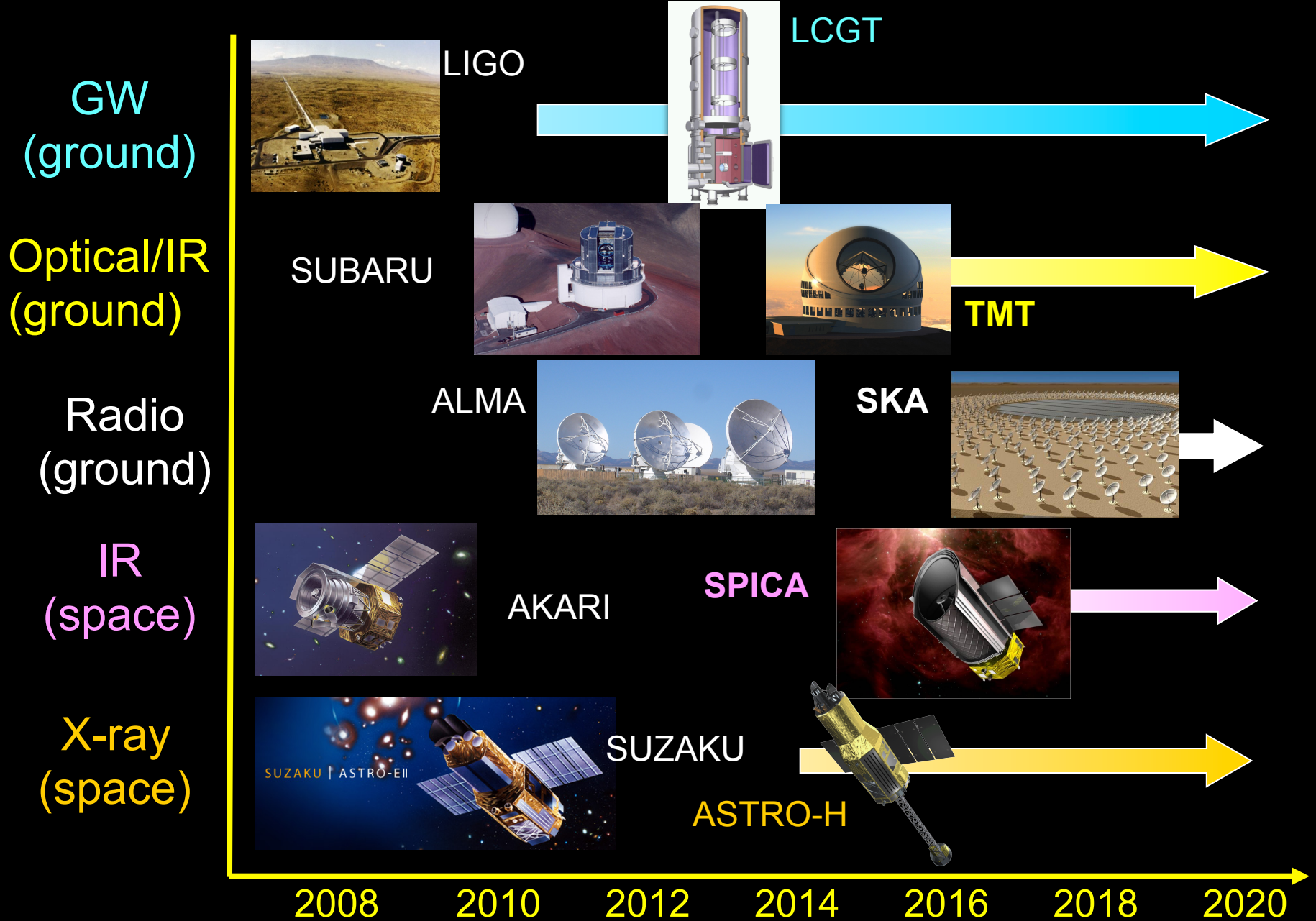
Physics committee (7)

Astronomy and astrophysics subcommittee (2+18 associate members)

General physics subcommittee (2) High-energy physics subcommittee (2)

Solid-state physics subcommittee (1)

Japanese astronomy roadmap in 2010's



Report “Prospects and future projects of
Astronomy and astrophysics in Japan”
by A&Ap subcommittee of SCJ
(January 15, 2009)

- Japanese decadal survey of large observational projects in astronomy and astrophysics for next 10 years
- **Three highest priority projects:**
 - LCGT, TMT, SPICA
 - + about 30 intermediate-scale/next-priority projects

Recommendation by Astronomy and Astrophysics subcommittee of SCJ

- Japanese Master Plan of Large Research Projects (March 17, 2010; 43 projects)
 - LCGT, TMT, SKA, SPICA, Astro-H

<http://www.scj.go.jp/ja/info/kohyo/pdf/kohyo-21-t90-e2.pdf>

- Japanese Master Plan of Large Research Projects 2011 (September 28, 2011; 46 projects)
 - TMT, SKA, SPICA

<http://www.scj.go.jp/ja/info/kohyo/pdf/kohyo-21-h135-1-2e.pdf>

SCJ is now working on Japanese Master Plan of Large Research Projects 2013

- received proposals from all fields in SCJ
- under selection process
- **~ 200 big projects will be selected**
- 8 projects proposed with recommendation by astronomy and astrophysics subcommittee
 - SPICA, SKA, LiteBIRD, CTA, South-pole Telescope, JEM-EUSO, DIOS, Solar-C
- **~ 30 projects out of the above 200 will be recommended with the highest priority in the master plan**

Summary

- The Astronomy & Astrophysics subcommittee and the Physics committee strongly recommend and support SPICA as one of the highest priority large research projects in Japan.
- We do hope that it will be successfully funded soon.
- I wish all of you will enjoy this wonderful science conference for the next four days.