What is SCPJ project?
SCPJ (Society Copyright Policies in Japan) project is aimed to develop legal protocols or managing copyright issues in an open access environment in Japan. It is started by 3 Universities funded by National Institute of Informatics in 2006. Most of scholarly journals in Japan are published by domestic scholarly societies. Therefore, in 2006, we sent out questionnaires to them and based on the results, built and opened a database of their open access policies—SCPJ database.

Gray means “Under consideration”
We are expressing their conditions by the color according to SHERPA/RoMEO site. -green (allowing archiving of both pre-prints and post-prints) -blue (allowing archiving of post-prints but not pre-prints) -yellow (allowing archiving of pre-prints but not post-prints) -white (no archiving allowed) Moreover we uniquely set up the color gray because many societies answered “under consideration”. Now we have 1,815 societies’ data, however more than 70 percent of them is gray.

Present situation in Japan
The result of this investigation revealed that understanding of open access in Japan is not obtained still more compared with the situation in Europe and the US. We have continued efforts to change gray societies to green through holding of a joint workshop and a meeting with people involved in them. As a result, green and blue societies have increased steadily in the past 2 years though only gradually.

Next plan of promotion
Presently we have been joined 5 new universities and planned collaboration with SPARCJAPAN, creating of the web page to provide information about open access to them, and so on. These activities will be expected to establish communication channels with societies.

Partners
University of Tsukuba (lead) Chiba University Tokyo Institute of Technology Kobe University Hokkaido University Kanazawa University Osaka University