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New era of the Japanese Antarctic Research Program

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Following the fiftieth anniversary of the International Geophysical Year, the Japanese Antarctic Program is entering a new era of research with a new icebreaker. Japanese Antarctic Programs are promoted by the Headquarters at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), but the actual expeditions are planned and organized by NIPR, in cooperation with various government institutions. In the last twelve months, we have been discussing the future of the Japanese Antarctic Program and our expectations for polar research. In this talk, we present our vision of a new generation of Antarctic Programs. We seek input from the broader scientific community in developing future directions in polar research.