

JALT CEFR & LP SIG

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<https://cefrjapan.net>



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New Kaken research project - Call for Collaboration

In April 2020, the third JSPS Grant-in-Aid research project (no. 20K00759) was granted:

Foreign Language Education Reform through Action Research Putting CEFR educational principles into practice

「アクションリサーチの手法を用いた言語教育改善:CEFR の教育理念を参考にして」

The JALT CEFR & LP SIG is looking for researchers to participate in our latest KAKEN JSPS research project.

The aim of this project is to support numerous small-scale action research (AR) projects related to foreign language teaching in Japan and beyond, in which practitioners reflect on and find ways to improve their teaching practice using the CEFR as a reference tool.

Each AR team will be provided with support and guidance to ensure that their research is conducted in a systematic way in relation to the AR literature and reflective of CEFR principles. The teams will be grouped thematically around five central themes:

- Designing a curriculum and / or course
- Materials Development
- Assessment
- Learner autonomy and the European Language Portfolio
- Classroom Implementation.

These categories roughly follow the chapters of the CEFR & LP SIG's latest publication, *CEFR-informed Learning, Teaching and Assessment: A Practical Guide* (Nagai et al. 2020). The book authors and SIG officers will offer support and guidance in their respective areas of expertise while undertaking their own research projects. Each team will also be provided with a succinct review of the AR literature, and an action research framework to guide their research efforts. Ultimately, we plan to publish these case studies in either an edited volume or our in-house journal: *CEFR JOURNAL - Research and Practice*.

Schedule of the research project:

2020: Work with CEFR & LP SIG members to identify research foci and to plan AR projects.

2021: Carry out action research / Collect and analyze data.

2022: Reflect on AR projects and write research up for publication.

This project is related to the JSPS Kaken project no. 20K00759 「アクションリサーチの手法を用いた言語教育改善: CEFR の教育理念を参考にして」. Taking part in it, presenting and/ or publishing will be acknowledged by including your name in the yearly reports and in

the final report of the Kaken as research collaborators (研究協力者) during the research period (2020 - 2022). The names of research collaborators will appear in the final report of the ongoing Kaken project, as shown in the previous Kaken project report (see Kaken database <https://kaken.nii.ac.jp/en/grant/KAKENHI-PROJECT-16K02835/>).

JALT and the CEFR & LP SIG are included explicitly in the research proposal. Being a member is favorable but not mandatory for taking part in the project. As this is a JSPS Kaken project, the outcome aims to contribute substantially to foreign language education (English or other languages) in Japan. Yet, the language for presentations and publications should be either in English or in Japanese. If you are interested in participating, please contact the research team.

For more details, see the special project homepage: <https://cefrjapan.net/kaken-5>

Contact: jalt.cefrlp.sig {admark} gmail.com

The proposal reads in Japanese as follows:

「本研究では、本申請研究代表者と分担者が所属する全国語学教育学会(これ以降、JALT)の CEFR-LP 研究会 (CEFR&LP SIG) の会員と協働し、アクションリサーチの手法を用い、CEFR の教育理念に基づいた言語教育改善を支援する持続可能なシステムと体制を構築する。そのために、以下のことを行う。

- 1) CEFR の教育理念に照らして、現在多くの教員が抱える課題を調査し、特定する。
- 2) アクションリサーチの手法を明確にした上で、(1)で明らかになる課題を解決するための複数のアクションリサーチを行う。
- 3) アクションリサーチの手法を用いた、CEFR の理念を柱とした言語教育改善を支援する持続可能なシステムと体制を整える。」

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Outcome of the research project now published

We are happy to announce the outcome of the JSPS Grant-in-Aid research project (no. 16K02835) is the following book published in July 2020:

Nagai, Noriko, Gregory C. Birch, Jack V. Bower & Maria Gabriela Schmidt. 2020.

CEFR-informed Teaching, Learning, Assessment – A Practical Guide.
Singapore: Springer.

For more details, see the special book homepage: <https://cefrjapan.net/publications/books/85-books-practical-guide>

If you are interested in reviewing this book, please contact the research team.

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