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Japan-Russia interregional cooperation in the frame of the Northern Forum: past, present and future

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Japan-Russia Interregional Cooperation in the Arctic and North –
Theory and Practice
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Northern Forum: history

1974: *First International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions.* Hosted by Hokkaido Governor Naohiro Dougakinai.

Participants: representatives from the Canadian provincial governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Northwest Territories; US state governments of Alaska, Idaho, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin; and representatives from the capital cities of Finland, Norway, and Sweden.

The conference focus: environmental, climactic, economic and social issues.



Northern Forum: history

1991: Constituent Assembly of the Northern Forum
13 representatives of northern regions from 8
countries: W.Hikel (Alaska, USA), T.Penikett
(Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada), I.Yutreland (Tondheim,
Novergia), F.Bierkan (Landsdelsutvalget, Bodo, Ussr)
A. Krashakov (Chukotka, USSR), Zh.Tinong
(Heilongjiang, China), D.Dagwasuren (Choibalsan,
Mongolia), M. Suzuki (Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan)
adopted and signed the Charter of the Northern
Forum.



Northern Forum: history

- Priorities for cooperation: environment protection, conservation of biodiversity, youth
- **1993 – 2004** - Sakhalin Region was a member of the Northern Forum. During the membership period, the Sakhalin Region took part in all the main events and meetings of the Northern Forum.
- Sakhalin-Hokkaido cooperation.
- **2001: 1st** Youth Eco-forum, Edmonton, Canada. Japanese and Russian young people took an active part in the forum.



Northern Forum: history

- Japanese government organization NEDO with the Government of Kamchatka Krai and "Russian Joint Stock Company of the Energy System of the East" built a unique wind power complex in Ust-Kamchatsk (Russia).
- The Conference “Development of Renewable Energy in the Far East of Russia”: regional cooperation on the development of renewable energy and alternative sources of energy is analyzed on the regular basis.



Northern Forum: forms of cooperation

- September 2016: Sakha-Yakutian President Egor Borisov met the Hokkaido Governor Harumi Takahashi. Agreements between the Yakutian government and Hokkaido corporation + Almaz Bank and Hokkaido Bank, Ltd. Mr. Borisov called for Hokkaido to resume its NF membership.
- 2016: Greenhouse in Yakutsk
- 2017: medical waste treatment plant in Yakutsk
- Hangalas district: construction of the greenhouse



Venues for cooperation

- Northern Sustainable Development Forum September 24-28, 2019, Yakutsk. Japanese delegation took part in the Forum.
- Hokkaido Bank, Ltd.: promising areas for cooperation: agriculture, seafood, marine biotechnologies
- Inter-university cooperation



Forms of cooperation

- **2019:** Kamchatka LNG terminal: Novatek, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines signed an agreement on construction of the terminal.
- **2019:** Arctic LNG-2: Novatek and Japan Arctic LNG (Mitsui and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation)
- **2020:** The Russo-Japanese Inter-regional cooperation Year. Priorities: (1) reindeer herding; (2) transport infrastructure in the northeast Arctic; (3) Arctic island development; (4) Arctic data centers.



NF membership:

1. [Akureyri \(Iceland\)](#)
2. [Alaska \(USA\)](#)
3. [Chukotka AO \(Russia\)](#)
4. [Gangwon Province \(Korea\)](#)
5. [Kamchatka krai](#)
6. [Khabarovsk krai \(Russia\)](#)
7. Khanty - Mansiysk AO (Russia)
8. [Krasnoyarskiy Krai \(Russia\)](#)
9. [Lapland \(Finland\)](#)
10. [Magadan oblast \(Russia\)](#)
11. [Nenetskiy AO \(Russia\)](#)
12. [Primorsky kray](#)
13. [Sakha Republic \(Russia\)](#)
14. [Yamal - Nenets AO \(Russia\)](#)





NF Working Groups

1. Regional Adaptation to climate change
2. Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity
3. Development of Energy in the North
4. Housing in the Arctic
5. Transportation in the North
6. Business Cooperation in the North
7. Health in the North and Social Issues
8. Culture
9. Education and Research
10. Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions



NF business partners

1. Northern Forum Academy (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia)
2. Arctic Portal (Akureyri, Iceland)
3. Institute of the North (Alaska, USA)
4. Arctic Business Relations LLC of «Ukpeaġvikiĳñupiat Corporation» (UIC) (Alaska, USA)
5. CMYK Master Polygraphy LLC (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia)
6. SuluS LLC (St. Petersburg, Russia)
7. Energy Saving Technologies LLC (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia)
8. Lapland Chamber of Commerce (Finland)
9. French Polar Cluster (France)
10. High North Center for Business and Governance of the Business School at Nord University (Norway)
11. Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center (Japan)
12. Alaska Native Heritage Center (Alaska, USA)