

Japan-Russia academic cooperation on the Arctic and North-related issues: Participatory observations

International conference “Cross-border interregional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region as a driver for the development of the Russian Far East and the Asian Arctic”

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18 October 2021

1. HaRP Platform

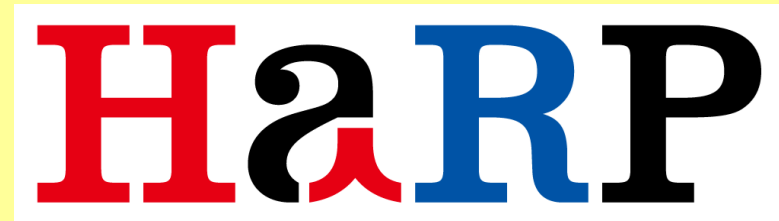
The 2017 Inter-University Exchange Project (Japan-Russia projects)

Type B Program:

- 1) A program to build a **platform for accumulating information and experience gained by the universities** participating in this program that would be useful to other Japanese universities carrying out joint projects with Russian universities.
- 2) Contribution to the activities of the Association of Japanese and Russian Universities.



- Successful joint application by **Hokkaido University (HU) and Niigata University (NU)**
- Project title: **Human Resource Development Platform for Japan-Russia Economic Cooperation and Personnel Exchange**



2. Specialized sections : structure

Organizations composed of representatives from

- academia
- industry
- government

in Japan and Russia that aim to train specialists capable of contributing to the promotion of economic cooperation and development of both countries.



1. Health and medicine

2. City development

3. Exchanges between small and medium-sized companies

4. Energy development **Environment, Resource Development, Multicultural Education**

5. Promotion of industrial diversification

6. Industrial promotion in the Far East

7. Cooperation in advanced technologies

8. Language, Culture, Tourism

New sections may be established in future.

- Correspond to the 8-point Japan-Russia Economic Cooperation Plan (2016).
- Should involve more than one university on each side.
- Encourage cooperation with local authorities, private companies and other entities.

3. Japanese participants of the specialized sections

Section	Number of Univ.	Russian universities (as of September 2020)
1. Health and Medicine	7	<u>Niigata U.</u> (leader: Shihoko YAMAKAWA), U. of Tsukuba, Kanazawa U., Nagasaki U., Tokai U., Fukushima Medical U., Hokkaido University
2. City Development	5	<u>Hokkaido U.</u> (leader: Tsuyoshi SETOGUCHI), Tokyo U., Niigata U., Nagaoka Institute of Technology, Sapporo City U.
3. Exchanges between small and medium-sized companies	5	<u>Hokkaido U.</u> (leader), Kanazawa U., Soka U., Osaka U., Sapporo Otani U.
4. SDGs : Environment, resource development, multicultural education	5	<u>Hokkaido U.</u> (leader), Kanazawa U., Tokai U., Kobe City U. of Foreign Studies, Muroran Institute of Technology, Tohoku U.
5. Promotion of industrial diversification	3	<u>Hokkaido U.</u> (leader), Otaru U. of Commerce, Sapporo Otani U.
6. Industrial promotion in the Far East	7	<u>Niigata U.</u> (leader: Hideo HASEGAWA), Hokkaido U., Chiba U., Kanazawa U., Otaru U. of Commerce, Osaka U., Tokyo U. of Agriculture
7. Cooperation in developing advanced technologies	7	<u>Kanazawa U.</u> (leader: Shigeo TANAKA), Hokkaido U., Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokai U., Kindai U., Muroran Institute of Technology, Osaka U.
8. Language, culture, tourism	14	<u>Hokkaido U.</u> (leader), Tohoku U., Tokyo U. of Foreign Studies, Niigata U., Kobe City U. of Foreign Studies, Tokai U., Sophia U., Soka U., Kobe Gakuin U., Otaru U. of Commerce, Osaka U., Sapporo City U., Sapporo U., Future University Hakodate

4. Russian partner universities of the specialized sections

Section	Number of Univ.	Russian universities (as of September 2020)
1. Health and Medicine	17	MSU, KrasSMU, SPbU, NEFU, FEFU, KFU, FESMU, PSMU, KSMU, Sechenov University, RSMU, NSMU, NWSMU, SakhsU, HSE, NSU
2. City Development	16	MSU, SPbU, FEFU, NEFU, UrFU, PNU, SPbGASU, INRTU, SakhsU, UNECON, KSUEL, FESTU, NSUADA, Sibstrin, NSII
3. Exchanges between small and medium-sized companies	3	MSU, FEFU, KFU
4. SDGs : Environment, Resource Development, Multicultural Education	12	FEFU, NEFU, KFU, ASU, ASU, ISU, NArFU, NSII, SakhsU, NSTU, USPU, MSU, SPbU
5. Promotion of industrial diversification	3	MSU, SPbU, FEFU
6. Industrial promotion in the Far East	16	FEFU, FESAU, FEGI FEB RAS, PSAA (Perm), SakhsU, NSAU, PSAA (Ussuriysk)
7. Cooperation in developing advanced technologies	12	MSU, SPbU, FEFU, KFU, ASU, TSU, Dubna, ITMO, UTMN, MEPhI, MCU
8. Language, culture, tourism	35	MSU, SPbU, NEFU, FEFU, UrFU, SibFU, SPUFT, SakhsU, SakhSTI, NSTU, NSUADA, MGIMO, RSUH, HSE, RUDN, NSU, TSU, MSLU, SPbGIK, Herzen University, RSU named after S. A. Esenin, PetrSU, LUNN, Pushkin Institute, KubSU, PSMU, RUDN University, MIU, TSPU, PRUE, RSUH, BSU, ISU, USPU

5. Key Japanese and Russian partners (public & private organizations)

- **Japanese public organizations**: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, JETRO, Japan Centers, Hokkaido Government, Sapporo City Office
- **Russian public organizations**: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Rossotrudnichestvo, Trade Representation of the Russian Federation in Japan, Far East and Arctic Development Corporation, Government of Khabarovsk Territory, Far Eastern Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Investment Promotion Agency of Novosibirsk Region, JSC Special Economic Zone “Innopolis”, Norilsk Development Agency, Government of the Sakha Republic
- **Japanese private organizations**: Japan Association for Trade with Russia & NIS (ROTOBO), CAREER BANK Co.,Ltd., HOKKAIDO CORPORATION Co., LTD., Sojitz Tourist Corporation, Man to Man Co., Ltd., G.I.PLAN, T.T.T. ABROAD ACADEMY, North Plan Corporation
- **Russian private organizations**: Robowizard Co. Ltd., LLC Euro-Asian Trading House Innovation, Rosatom
- **Japanese think tanks & NGOs**: Institute for Russian & NIS Economic Studies, Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA), Hokkaido international Exchange and Cooperation Center (HIECC), Hokkaido Intellect Tank (HIT), World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM)
- **Russian think tanks & NGOs**: Yakut Scientific Research Institute of Agriculture, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, Center for Agrobiotechnology of the Far East, Ekaterinburg & Sverdlovsk Branches of Russia-Japan Society, Tatarstan-Japan Culture and Information Center “Sakura”, Northern Forum, Foundation “Ulyanovsk – the Capital of Culture”

6. Hokkaido University and education related to the Arctic and Far East: RJE3 Program

Japan's MEXT: FY 2014 Inter-University Exchange Project

Type A: Projects that promote international exchange (focus: bilateral; FY 2014 – 19)

- Implement quality-assured collaborative educational programs with universities in Russia or India
- Support programs that involve dispatching Japanese students abroad and inviting foreign students to Japan with the aim of
 - training specialists who will engage in global-scale activities, and
 - strengthening the capacity of the global development of university education.

Hokkaido University:

East Russia Japan Expert Education Program (RJE3 Program)

1. Hokkaido University
2. Sakhalin State University
3. North-Eastern Federal University
4. Far-Eastern Federal University
5. Pacific National University
6. Irkutsk State University

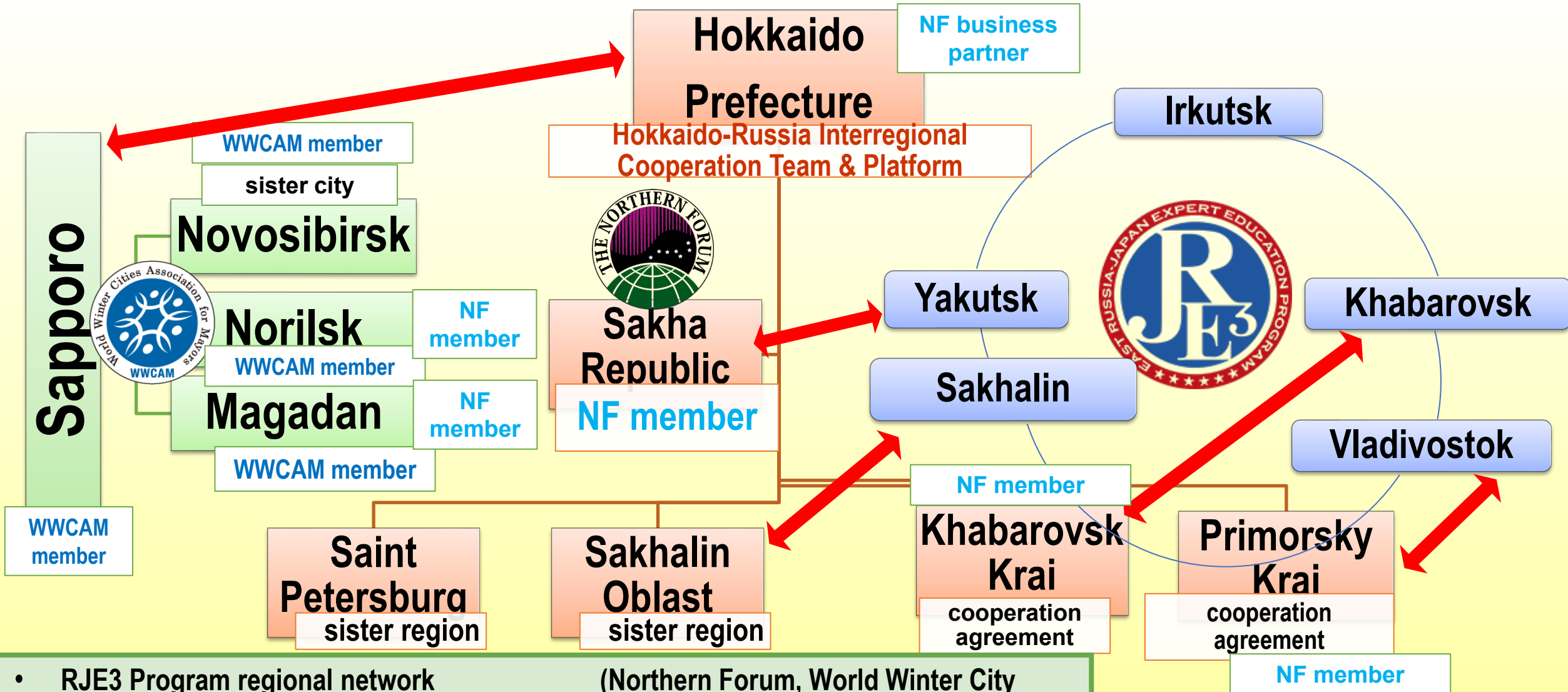


1. environmental assessment
2. cultural diversity
3. soil and productivity
4. regional resource development
5. disaster prevention management

7. Establishment of the SDGs-related specialized section

- Specialized section (4) “Energy development” was re-organized into “**SDGs: Environment, Resource Development, Multicultural Education**” / **SDGs: 環境・資源開発・多文化教育** / **SDGs: Экология, природопользование, мультикультурное образование.**
- **Sustainable development (SD)** – one of the key concepts underpinning the values of the modern global society. SD is an issue area where Japan-Russia collaboration may contribute to global society in general.
- **Sustainable development goals (SDGs)**, or Global Goals: adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.
- The new section will cover the following areas of education and research:
 - ✓ **Environmental monitoring in the Russian Far East and North**
 - ✓ **Regional development including resource development** (education reflecting the regional needs and the SDGs, infrastructure development, projects aimed at drawing on history and local culture as recreational resources etc.)
 - ✓ **Social issues of local communities including indigenous peoples** (preservation of their traditional culture and traditional lifestyles)

8. Hokkaido University's ties with the Russian Arctic, Northern and Far East regions



- RJE3 Program regional network
- Hokkaido / Sapporo sister region and city ties
- Interregional and intercity organizations

- (Northern Forum, World Winter City Association of Mayors)
- Hokkaido-Russia Interregional Team & Platform

9. Arctic, North, and Far-East related network of contacts (HaRP&ArCS (II))

Universities:

- North-Eastern Federal University
- Northern (Arctic) Federal University
- Far Eastern Federal University
- Moscow State University
- Higher School of Economics
- Khabarovsk State University of Economics and Law
- Sakhalin State University
- Saint Petersburg State University
- Saint Petersburg State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering (SPbGASU)
- Irkutsk State University
- Pacific National University
- Norilsk State Industrial Institute

Other organizations:

- Far East and Arctic Development Corporation
- Far East regions' governments (Sakha Republic, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Khabarovsk Krai, Sakhalin Oblast

etc.)

- Norilsk Development Agency
- Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute
- Yakut Scientific Research Institute of Agriculture
- Northern Forum
- Rosatom
- NPO Kamchatka Tourism Association

Japan / Hokkaido-based organizations:

- Institute for Russian & NIS Economic Studies
- Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA)
- Hokkaido international Exchange and Cooperation Center (HIECC)
- Hokkaido Intellect Tank (HIT)
- World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM)

10. Collaboration forms with Russian organizations

- In-person, online and hybrid events
- Short-term lecture courses
- Discussion of the collaboration prospects (mid-to-long-term projects involving business and government circles)

11. Activities shaping the new section – 1

September 2019: Cold Lands Seminar “**The Arctic and Asia**” & Round table discussions co-hosted with North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) (held as part of the First North Sustainable Development Forum@Yakutsk, September 23–27)



- NSDF Plenary session. **The Arctic and Asia: Opportunities and Areas of Cooperation.**
- Cold Lands Seminar. Arctic and Asia. Section 1: “**Connectivity, communication infrastructure and regional development of the North**”.
- Section 2. “**Socio-Economic Development of the Arctic and the North**”.
- Section 3: “**Environmental Monitoring**”.
- Section 4: “**Humanities**”.
- Round table discussion “**Carbon Budget of Ecosystems, Cities and Villages on Permafrost (COPERA Project) Arctic and Asia**”.
- Round table discussion “**Winter cities of the world: opportunities for cooperation**”

See <https://russia-platform.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/report/3573>

12. Activities shaping the new section – 2

November 2019: Lectures and Workshops, Panel discussions and Talk show “**North for Work and Life**” co-hosted with Norilsk State Industrial Institute (held as part of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors Working Meeting (WWCAM–2019)@Norilsk, November 14–18)



Panel topics:

- **Information systems and technologies. Big Data**
- **Construction in regions with a cold climate, in permafrost. Smart City**
- **Socio-economic problems of the North development. Logistics, maintenance and development of infrastructure. Indigenous peoples**
- **Environmental monitoring. Sustainable natural resource development**



See
<https://russia-platform.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/report/3424>

13. Activities shaping the new section – 3

November 2019: Visit to St. Petersburg for Japan-Russia industry-academia-government collaboration (on the occasion of the 3rd Working group meeting on cooperation and development between Hokkaido and St. Petersburg, November 18–20)



- Co-hosting workshop with members from the Faculty of International Relations at St. Petersburg State University (SPbU–Hokkaido University)
- Participation in a discussion session on architecture in cold climate regions held jointly by St. Petersburg State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering (SPbGASU) and Hokkaido Intellect Tank (HIT).
- Visits to the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute (AARI), Japan Center in St. Petersburg, Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University (SPbPU).

See <https://russia-platform.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/report/3410>

14. Activities shaping the new section – 4

September 2020: Cold Land Seminar “**Japanese-Russian collaboration in the North**” co-hosted with Ministry of Education and Science for the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) / North-Eastern Federal University (September 29-30, held online as part of the Second North Sustainable Development Forum).



- The launch meeting of the specialized section (4) “**SDGs: Environment, Resource Development, Multicultural Education**”, presentation of **ArCS II Project** and the Russian **North Research and Education Center** at the plenary session.
- Discussion in 5 sections:
 - ✓ 1) **The Northern environment**
 - ✓ 2) **The Northern community**
 - ✓ 3) **Socio-economic development of the North and the Arctic**
 - ✓ 4) **Construction technologies and design for cold regions**
 - ✓ 5) **Indigenous Media Development Strategies**

See <https://russia-platform.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/report/4027>

15. Cross-section activities of the new section

September 2021: Online seminar “Sustainable Regional Development, International Cooperation and the Protection of the Arctic Environment” (September 14, held online as part of the Japan-Russia Scientific Forum / General Meeting of the Association of Japanese and Russian Universities).

PROGRAM

SESSION 1
Olga Tutubalina, Lomonosov Moscow State University: “The role of regional and local actors in the protection and study of the Arctic and northern environment (Case study: Norilsk Industrial region)”
Commentator: Irina Onufrenya, WWF Russia

SESSION 2
Alexander Pilyasov and Nadezhda Zamyatina, Lomonosov Moscow State University: “Economic development of the Russian Arctic 2.0: major results from the three-year research project”
Commentator: Shinichiro Tabata, Hokkaido University

Speaker 4: Ilya Stepanov, Higher School of Economics: “Climate change and the Limits for the Development and Cooperation in the Arctic”
Commentator: Aileen Aseron Espiritu, UIT The Arctic University of Norway, the Barents Institute

Q&A at the end of both sessions
10 min break between the sessions
Closing: no later than 18:00

environmental monitoring

indigenous traditional lifestyle & rights

regional economy models

city development

global decarbonization

sustainable development

Arctic governance

See <https://russia-platform.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/report/6866>

Upside of the Warming Arctic

- The rise of the Arctic surface temperature has been twice as fast as the world average
- The area of the September ice has been decreasing at a rate of 13% per decade and has decreased by almost half compared with the 1960s
- Increased transport potential of the Arctic (e.g. the Northern Sea Route), extension of the navigation period (from July to October)
- Increased accessibility of the Arctic resources
- The most promising Arctic areas for economic development: the Barents Sea, the Beaufort and the Kara Sea, the eastern and western coasts of Greenland (Stepanov et al. 2017)

Source: NASA's Scientific Visualization Studio, Key And Title By Uploader (Eric Fisk) URL: <https://data.nasa.gov/Global-Maps/Global-Maps/23-07-2021>

Zoom Meeting

imi OHASHI... Interpreter Serg... Shin Tabata Hok... Elena Golubeva... Aileen A. ESPIRI... Ekaterina Interpr... Mikhail PRISIAZ... Anton Lopukhin... SPb Coordinatio... Carol Lopez_NAr... HaRP_001 HaRP_REC_RU Interpreter: Mik...

Cooperation in the field of multilevel governance and interregional cooperation (1/2)

Background: cooperation with the North-Eastern Federal University during the 2019 and 2020 Cold Land Seminars/Northern Sustainable Development Forums.

- “Multilevel Governance and Interregional Cooperation: Vol. 1 – The Pacific Arctic” held on 12 January 2021
- “Japan-Russia Interregional Cooperation in the Arctic and North – Theory and Practice” held on 3 March 2021
- “Multilevel Governance and Interregional Cooperation: Vol. 2 – The Barents Region” held on 9 June 2021.
- “Sustainable Regional Development, International Cooperation and the Protection of the Arctic Environment” held on September 14, 2021

Cooperation in the field of multilevel governance and interregional cooperation (2/2)

- Different types of settlements/cities/companies/industrial projects and their relations with the sustainable development of the Arctic and north
- The past, present and future of different forums and organizations supporting international and interregional cooperation in the Arctic and North
- The role and added value of cross-border interregional cooperation
- Challenges bound to the international and interregional cooperation in the Arctic and north

Cooperation between Japan and Russia in the Arctic and North related activities

- 1) There is a will to cooperate (individual researchers/universities/Industry-Academia-Government cooperation).
- 2) There are issues that both Japanese and Russian researchers find interesting and important.
- 3) Project building: From events (networking, identifying the issues) to co-authored papers, applications for external project funding etc.
- 4) Education: The Russian-Japanese academic cooperation in the Arctic and North should not only focus on research. (Field courses, student and teacher mobility but also online teaching)

Concluding remarks - 1

- Versatility among those involved and interested in learning more
- Possibilities related to the online platform
- Questions concerning the language

Japanese-Russian academic cooperation in the study of the Arctic and North – reasons for optimism:

- A long-term cooperation between individual researchers and research groups representing different disciplines
- Institutional ties between Japanese and Russian universities and other relevant stakeholders
- Increasing interest in the Arctic-related matters in Japan (the Arctic Challenge for Sustainability 2 project)

Issues that need to be taken into consideration:

- The role of key persons and need to build connections between young scholars
- How to ensure continuation after and between different projects

Concluding remarks - 2

Japanese-Russian academic collaboration: differences and challenges

1. ***Greater interest in cooperation with Japanese partners on the Russian side*** than the other way round.
2. ***Russian students are generally keener on participating in various events*** in different capacities, including volunteers, ***and searching for opportunities of studying abroad.***
3. The ***widespread use of messengers for communication in Russia greatly facilitates communication*** with the stakeholders including the top administration.
4. ***Different time frames in planning:*** Russia – more short-term, Japan – more mid-to-long term.
5. ***Difference in a degree of individual's leeway*** in making new contacts and initiating discussions of prospective collaborations: higher in Russia. On the other hand, risk management and backup planning are more advanced in Japan.
6. Easier to ***start a new project within the framework or as an offshoot of the currently running one.***