

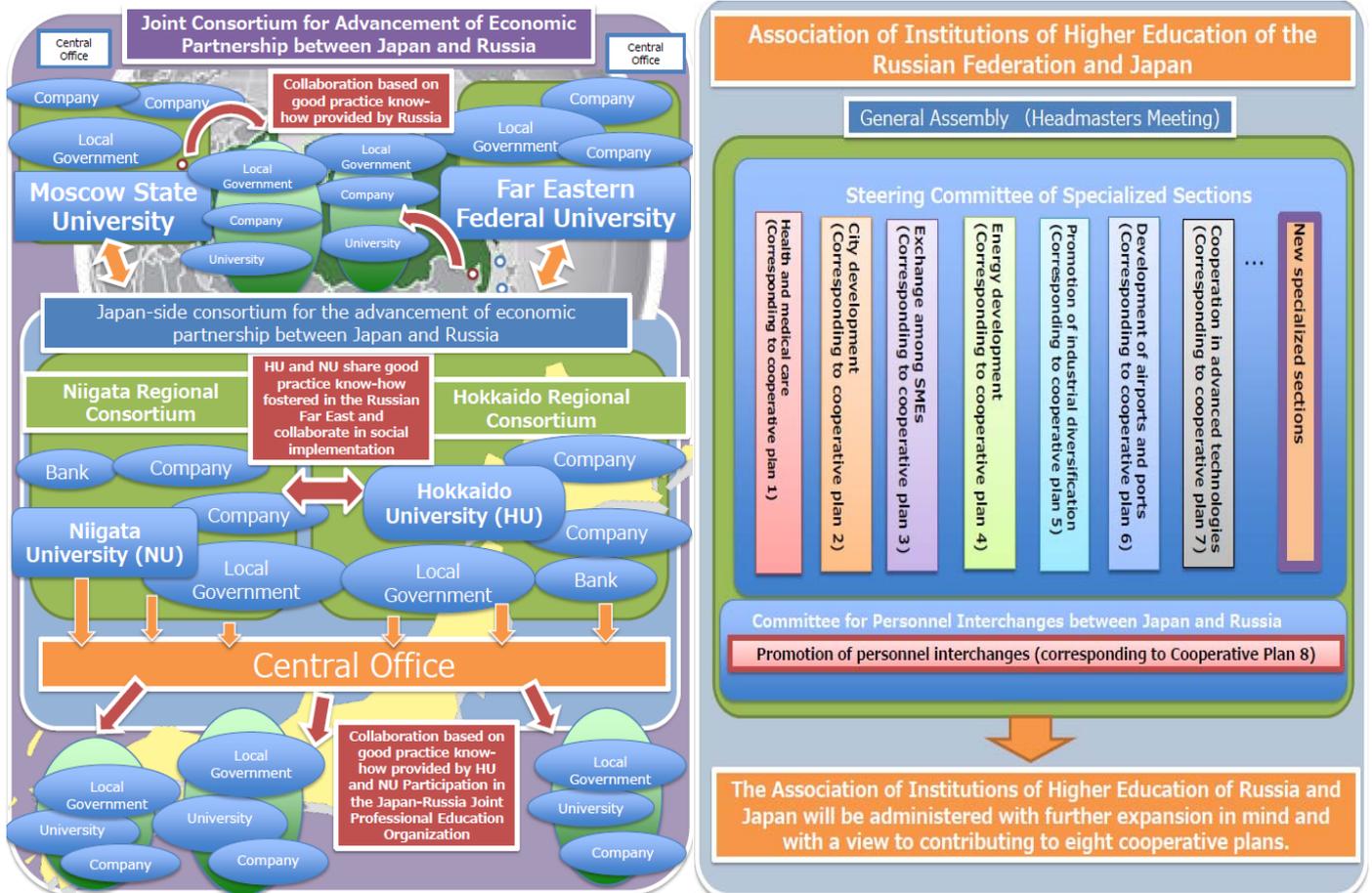
FY2017 Inter-University Exchange Project Project Outline of Hokkaido University & Niigata University

Project Title (FY 2017, Type B (Russia))

Platform establishment program – Plan to introduce a personnel development model, which may contribute to the economic partnership between Japan and Russia with a focus on dialogue with multiple stakeholders, from Japan and Far East Siberia to all over Russia.

Outline of the Project

The project is to construct an industry-academia-government platform whose purpose is to develop multiple professionals and promote science to serve the advancement of economic partnership between Japan and Russia. This will be achieved by launching Hokkaido and Niigata consortiums including universities, local governments and local companies through the network built during the Inter-University Exchange Project by Hokkaido University and Niigata University, RJE3 and MedEx, as well as by developing regional consortiums involving multiple stakeholders in core regions in Japan and Russia.



Outline of the Interchange Program

To advance Japan-Russia economic partnership, the Interchange Program will start-up a "Consortium for the advancement of economic partnership between Japan and Russia" to collaborate in the provision and social application of good practice know-how provided by Hokkaido University and Niigata University in cooperation with universities qualified for the Inter-University Exchange Project and the members of the Association of Institutions of Higher Education of the Russian Federation and Japan. One of the main roles of the platform project is the administration of this Association. For the scheduled establishment of "Japan-Russia Bilateral Corporation for Professional Education" (provisional name) by the Association, the "Steering Committee of Specialized Sections" will be launched to address the items stated in the "Collaborative Plan for Industrial and Economic Innovation for an Environmentally Friendly Russia with Higher Quality of Life" presented at the "Committee for Personnel Interchanges between Japan-Russia" to ensure the quality of education and promote personnel interchanges and the Japan-Russia Summit Meeting held in May and December of 2016. In respect of the subjects to be determined by leading universities in Japan and Russia, researchers with interests will work jointly with companies, local governments and Russian researchers to develop experts, publish research findings and exchange information on a regular basis, and are engaged in interdisciplinary studies. It is also planned to ensure the continuing collaboration of the Japan-Russia joint consortiums with alumni by the functional and sustainable administration of the alumni network of those who have participated in such activities.

Image of Personnel Development in the Project

Sustainable development of high-level experts, who may contribute to the achievement of eight items stated in the economic cooperation plan agreed upon at the Japan-Russia summit meeting, through the Japan-side and Russia-side consortiums based on the unique network and past achievements established by Hokkaido University and Niigata University from Far East Russia to all over Russia.

Characteristics of the Project

In order to advance partnership and interchanges between Japan and Russia, it is indispensable to establish a Japan-Russia joint educational system that is directly relevant to the development of high-level experts, local experts responsible for various activities and establish an organization for supporting these activities. Accordingly, a platform that integrates information and experience obtained by establishing new programs and implementing existing programs will be established mainly by local consortiums, and the model of the platform will be shared with national and private universities throughout the country.

1. FY 2017 Progress

【Hokkaido University, Niigata University】

【Name of project】 (Adopted year: FY 2017, Type B (Russia))

Human Resource Development Platform for Japan-Russia Economic Cooperation and Personnel Exchange (HaRP)



■ Programs

○ Cooperation with, and establishment of, regional consortiums in Hokkaido and Niigata

- We promoted our project to, and requested cooperation from, regional consortiums in Hokkaido, including the Hokkaido-Russia Inter-regional Cooperation Team, whose members include the Hokkaido Government and companies with a track record of exchanges with their counterparts in Russia.
- In the Niigata region, Niigata University and five organizations, including local government offices and companies, held several conferences and agreed to establish the Niigata Consortium for Japan-Russia Medical Sciences and Educational Exchanges .

○ Establishment of the project's operating structure

- To run the project, we agreed to have the Central Office functions assumed by both Japanese universities (Hokkaido Univ. and Niigata Univ.) and Russian universities (Moscow State Univ. and Pacific National Univ.).

○ Increased membership of the Association of Institutions of Higher Education of the Russian Federation and Japan

- Eight universities four each in Japan and Russia joined the Association as a result of our calls for membership via questionnaires on Japan-Russia exchanges to the Association's steering committee in Japan and Japanese universities and based on our discussion with Moscow State University, which plays a leading role in this project in Russia.

○ Promotion of student exchanges

- September: The Japan-Russia Student Forum was held in Vladivostok in conjunction with the Eastern Economic Forum, and student representatives handed a summary of their discussions (proposal) to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. (The Forum was hosted jointly by Hokkaido Univ., Tohoku Univ., Moscow State Univ. and Far Eastern Federal Univ. with the support of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.)
- November: The Japan-Russia Youth Forum was held at Hokkaido Univ. (hosted jointly by the Japan-Russia Youth Exchange Center and the Russian International Youth Center).

○ Collection of information about Japan-Russia university exchanges and promotion of the Inter-University Exchange Project (Russia)

- We collected information about Japan-Russia university exchanges via questionnaires to universities adopted for the Inter-University Exchange, members of the Association of Institutions of Higher Education of the Russian Federation and Japan, etc, and also at symposiums and other events held at universities regarding Japan-Russia exchanges.
- We held the Annual Meeting of Universities adopted for the Inter-University Exchange Project (Russia), where attendees shared information about their good practices regarding exchanges with Russian universities and discussed common challenges and solutions. At the meeting, we called on the attendees to participate in activities of the Association of Institutions of Higher Education of the Russian Federation and Japan.

○ Opening of the HaRP website

- We opened the HaRP website in Japanese, Russian and English to strategically provide information in Japan and beyond (<http://russia-platform.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/>).

○ Initiatives for the establishment of the Committee for Personnel Exchanges between Japan and Russia and the Steering Committee for Specialized Sections

- In November, we met with faculty members of four Japanese universities with a track record of exchanges with their counterparts in Russia to discuss the establishment of the Committee for Personnel Exchanges between Japan and Russia. In January 2018, a preparatory meeting for the establishment of the committee was held with the attendance of faculty and staff members of three Russian universities and 10 Japanese universities.
- The following activities relating to specialized sections were conducted, where Japan-Russia exchanges were promoted through the sharing of information and opinions among working-level officials in industry, government and academia as well as through exchange programs.
 1. "The Preparatory Meeting for the Specialized Section on Health and Medicine" (Niigata Univ.), 2. "Seminar and discussion session regarding city development" and "the Discussion Session City Development Section" (Preparatory Meeting) for the Specialized Section on City Development "(Hokkaido Univ.), 3. "Japan-Russian Far East Agricultural Forum" (Chiba Univ.) and 4. "Internships to help promote exchanges between small and medium-sized companies in Japan and Russia" (Kindai Univ.)

■ Notices

○ Organization of the General Assembly of the Association of Institutions of Higher Education of the Russian Federation and Japan (Japan-Russia Rectors' Forum) and the Japan-Russia Student Forum

- The First General Assembly of the Association of Institutions of Higher Education of the Russian Federation and Japan (the Seventh Japan-Russia Rectors' Forum) was held in May 2018 under the theme of "Promotion of Human Resource Development for Japan-Russia Economic Cooperation and Personnel Exchange."
- In conjunction with the general assembly, the Japan-Russia Student Forum was also held to promote mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries through direct interaction among students.



(Participants in the General Assembly)



- At the end of the general assembly, a communique was adopted based on discussions at the parallel sessions and the Japan-Russia Student Forum. It outlined the establishment of "the Committee for Personnel Exchanges between Japan and Russia," "the Student Union" and "Specialized Sections and the Steering Committee for Specialized Sections" and the promotion of academic exchanges, including those of young researchers, as well as the integration of different fields of study and industry-academia collaboration (The President of Hokkaido University and the rector of Moscow State University holding a communique)