



MONTHLY INFORMATION DIGEST

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE FAR EAST**

04/2021



EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM NEWS

19 May 2021, Forbes

A meeting on preparations for EEF 2021 held in Vladivostok

During his working trip to Primorye Territory, Deputy Prime Minister – Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District Yuriy Trutnev held a meeting on the preparation for the Eastern Economic Forum (EEF). The issues of investors' and government officials' participation in the 2021 Forum, readiness of Vladivostok's urban infrastructure, as well as epidemiological safety measures were discussed.

forbes.ru/forbes-agenda/forbes-agenda/429797-vo-vladivostoke-proshlo-soveshchanie-po-podgotovke-k-vef-2021

4 May 2021, Forbes

New agglomerations, smart cities and green transformation discussed at the first online session in the course of preparation for the EEF

The first online session in the course of preparation for the Eastern Economic Forum was held on 30 April 2021. The event was organized by the Government of the Sakhalin Region, the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East, the Far East Development Corporation, and the Roscongress Foundation. Participants of the session discussed topical issues related to the development of the region and the international agenda.

The discussion was mainly focused on the development of territories directly connected to the sea: through a coastline, a system of bays, or seaports. It is suggested that integration makes it possible to realize the tourist potential of the territories, to perform the renovation of regional and local facilities, and to provide an incentive for industrial development.

As part of the agglomeration process, the prospects for creating an ecopolis in Korsakov are under consideration. The town may benefit from a multimodal international logistics centre based at the seaport; a special economic zone governed by international law, with special registration regime; a scientific and educational centre for ocean economics (including a campus for 9,000 students); an innovative multicultural centre with a comfortable urban environment and housing with a total area of about 1 million sq. metres.

forbes.ru/forbes-agenda/forbes-agenda/428555-novye-aglomeracii-umnye-goroda-i-zelenuyu-transformaciyu-obsudili

INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM EVENTS

20 May 2021, RIA Novosti

Russia assumes Chairmanship in the Arctic Council for 2021–2023

Chairmanship of the Arctic Council has passed over to Russia for the next two years. The ceremony took place at the Ministerial meeting of the eight Arctic States in Reykjavik. Icelandic Foreign Minister Guðlaugur Þór Þórðarson handed over the ceremonial gavel – a symbol of the Council Chairmanship – to his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov.

As part of its Arctic Council Chairmanship in 2021–2023, Russia intends to develop cooperation with the participating countries in four key areas: population of the Arctic, including the indigenous peoples of the North; protection of the Arctic environment, including climate change; social and economic development of the region; and strengthening the role of the Arctic Council as the main platform for multilateral cooperation in high latitudes. This is stated by the Concept of the Chairmanship of the Russian Federation in the Arctic Council in 2021–2023, approved by Mikhail Mishustin.

The Concept is aimed at implementing the tasks set by the Russian President in the Fundamentals of State Policy of the Russian Federation in the Arctic and the Strategy for Developing the Russian Arctic Zone and Ensuring National Security through 2035.



ria.ru/20210520/arktika-1733131106.html

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN THE FAR EAST AND THE ARCTIC

25 May 2021, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Murmansk Region to simplify allocation of Arctic Hectares as of 1 August

This becomes possible due to the decision to extend the Far Eastern Hectare programme to the entire Russian Arctic zone. The simplified procedure includes simultaneous allocation and provision of a land lot, so that the process would take no longer than 45 days. The lot is provided without bidding for a 5-year term for free use. Should the land be reclaimed within this term, it may be purchased or leased. Possible land use options include construction of residential housing or countryside homes, agriculture, and tourism.

The land lots will be distributed by the regional government: Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Fisheries (forest land lots) and the Ministry of Property Relations. The largest territories are designated in the Kola region.

The Arctic Hectare programme in the Murmansk Region is to be launched on 1 August 2021. More than 700,000 hectares of land are to be allocated.

rg.ru/2021/05/24/reg-szfo/zhiteli-zapoliaria-smogut-poluchit-gektar-zemli-v-uproshchennom-poriadke.html

23 May 2021, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

National tourism project will make Kamchatka more accessible for Russians, Dmitry Chernyshenko says

Accessibility of Kamchatka and other regions where ecotourism develops will be increased thanks to the national project "Tourism and hospitality industry". This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Chernyshenko during a meeting on the development of tourism in the Kamchatka Territory, the Valley of Geysers and other Protected Areas of Russia. "Three Volcanoes Park", a modern multifunctional tourist and recreational complex, is going to be created with the participation of the Tourism.RF corporation in Kamchatka. The Park will be cultivated in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and Environmental, Social and Corporate governance (ESG).

rg.ru/2021/05/23/reg-dfo/chernyshenko-kamchatka-stanet-dostupnee-dlia-rossiian-blagodaria-nacproektu.html

19 May 2021, Argumenty i Fakty

State Duma committee approves facilitating the access to the Russian Arctic zone for small businesses

The State Duma Committee on Economic Policy sponsors the bill designed to facilitate the access of small businesses to the Russian Arctic zone. The legislation removes the requirement to make capital investments in the construction, modernization or reconstruction of real estate for small businesses applying for the Arctic zone residency. At the same time, the specification of economic activities that are not subject to these requirements should be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

aif.ru/politics/gosduma_podderzhala_uproshchenie_dostupa_malogo_biznesa_v_arkticheskuyu_zonu



ECONOMY OF THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST AND ARCTIC

21 May 2021, Izvestia

Vladimir Putin praises the development of infrastructure in the Russian Arctic

On 21 May, the President congratulated Russian polar explorers on their professional holiday, noting that thanks to their efforts, Russia is actively developing industrial and transport infrastructure in the Arctic and Subpolar regions.

“This professional holiday is dedicated to the brave, courageous, dedicated people who contribute to the exploration and development of the polar territories: scientists, meteorologists, geologists, pilots, seafarers, construction workers, and other professionals. We have every right to be proud of the results of their challenging, selfless work,” the head of state notes.

iz.ru/1167081/2021-05-21/putin-pozdravil-poliarnikov-s-professionalnym-prazdnikom

12 May 2021, TASS

Russian Government to allocate RUB 15 billion to the state programme for the Russian Arctic development

This was stated by Mikhail Mishustin during his presentation of a report to the State Duma on the activities of the Government in 2020. The main goal of the programme is to ensure the region's sustainable development, attracting investors, and creating new jobs.

tass.ru/ekonomika/11349895

NEW MECHANISMS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FAR EAST AND ARCTIC: SUCCESS STORIES

20 May 2021, RIA Novosti

Representatives of Russian and Chinese regions discuss the prospects for investment and trade

The first ever discussion on the prospects for trade, economic and investment cooperation was held between the representatives of the Far Eastern Federal District's regions and the southern provinces of the People's Republic of China. The online meeting was organized by the Far East Development Corporation and the Chinese Embassy in Russia with the support of the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic.

Chinese businesses are involved in the development of such sectors of the economy as agriculture, forestry, transport logistics, etc. Therefore, a more active participation of Chinese coastal provinces with vast experience and potential for cooperation will allow to find more common ground, strengthen business cooperation and increase the project's scale in the future, says Li Jingyuan, representative of the Chinese Embassy in Russia.

<https://ria.ru/20210524/investitsii-1733650693.html>

13 May 2021, The Arctic

New podcast about life in the North is now available on popular platforms

Arctic Vibes is the name of a new audio podcast launched by the Information and Analytical Centre of the State Commission for the Development of the Arctic in collaboration with the Institute of Regional Consulting.



The project is aimed at launching a public and professional discussion about life in the Arctic, construction and development of Arctic settlements, “Arctic urban planning” and social aspects of life in the North, the podcast creators say.

ru.arctic.ru/new93411.html

The Roscongress Foundation is a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions; exhibitions; and business, public, sporting, and cultural events. It was established in pursuance of a decision by the President of the Russian Federation.

The Foundation was established in 2007 with the aim of facilitating the development of Russia’s economic potential, promoting its national interests, and strengthening the country’s image. One of the roles of the Foundation is to comprehensively evaluate, analyse, and cover issues on the Russian and global economic agendas. It also offers administrative services, provides promotional support for business projects and attracting investment, and helps foster social entrepreneurship and charitable initiatives.

Each year, the Foundation’s events draw participants from 208 countries and territories, with more than 15,000 media representatives working on-site at Roscongress’ various venues. The Foundation benefits from analytical and professional expertise provided by 5000 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with 133 economic partners; industrialists’ and entrepreneurs’ unions; and financial, trade, and business associations from 70 countries worldwide. **roscongress.org**

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