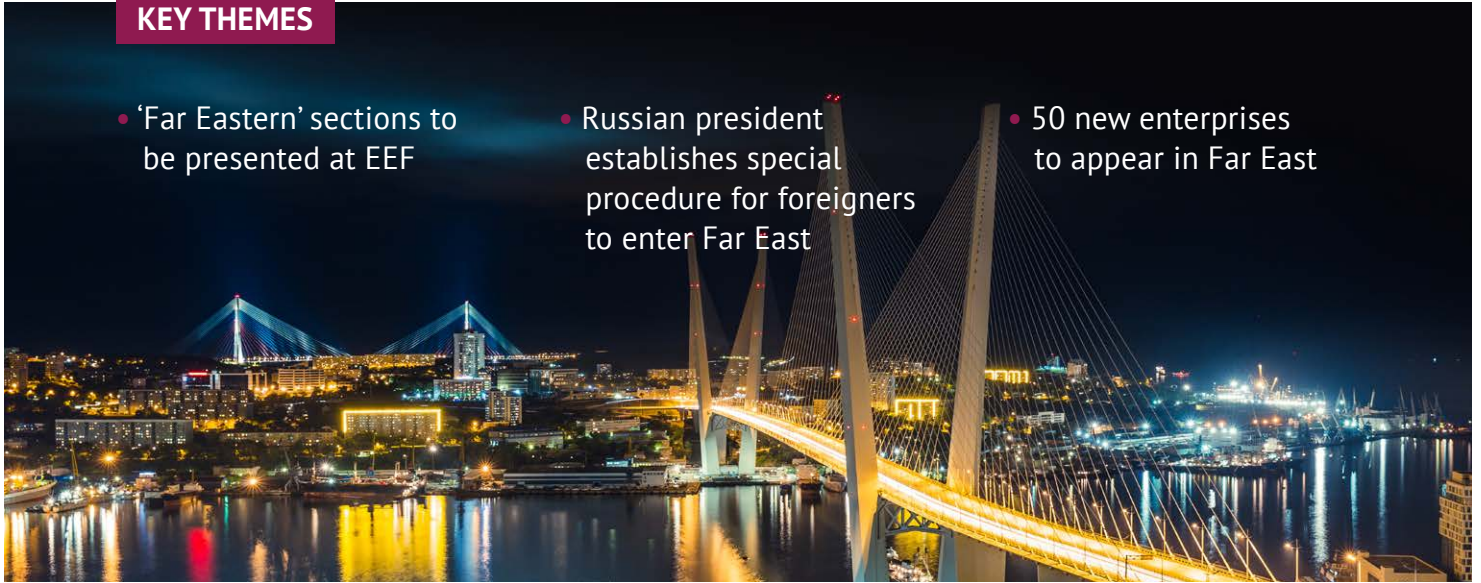


KEY THEMES

- 'Far Eastern' sections to be presented at EEF
- Russian president establishes special procedure for foreigners to enter Far East
- 50 new enterprises to appear in Far East



EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM NEWS

24 March 2017, Komsomolskaya Pravda

Best ideas for 'Far Eastern hectare' development to be presented at EEF

The Agency for the Development of Human Capital has announced a contest for best idea to use 'Far Eastern hectare' programme land plots. The contest winners will be able to present their projects at the third Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok on 6–7 September. This is the second idea contest held by the Agency – last year more than 500 works underwent an expert assessment. Some of them became the basis for the drafting of standard business plans for the development of land plots.

<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26657/3678557>

17 March 2017, Lenta.ru

Trutnev invites Indian partners to attend EEF 2017

During a working visit to India, Russian Deputy Prime Minister and Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District Yuri Trutnev met with Indian Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj, took part in a roundtable attended by Indian businessmen, and held negotiations with a number of major Indian companies that are interested in implementing projects in Russian Far East. Trutnev also invited his Indian partners to take part in the third Eastern Economic Forum.

https://lenta.ru/news/2017/03/17/india_diamonds

13 March 2017, Forumvostok.ru

'Far Eastern sections' of state programmes to be presented at EEF

Forum participants will be presented with programmes and measures that focus on the rapid development of the Far East. Special sections of state programmes will be presented by line ministries. Minister for the Development of Russian Far East Alexander Galushka said the formation of 'Far Eastern sections' in state programmes is being discussed directly with

regional governors. Priority attention will be paid to education, healthcare, sport and culture, the construction and reconstruction of bridges, the modernization of energy infrastructure and effective measures to support farmers.

Starting from 1 January 2017, 27 state programmes are required to have special sections on the socioeconomic development of the Far East. 'Far Eastern' sections should also appear in the development plans and investment programmes of companies with government position.

<https://forumvostok.ru/na-tretem-vostochnom-ekonomicheskom-forume-predstavyat-dalnevostochnye-razdely-gosudarstvennyh-programm/>

13 March 2017, Deita.ru

Far East regions to be involved in preparing EEF business programme

The architecture of the Eastern Economic Forum 2017 business programme is close to being finalised and should include all the new solutions and positive changes that are taking place in the regions of the Far East.

Far East Investment and Export Agency General Director Leonid Petukhov has recommended that the regions take part in preparing the Forum's business programme and also actively use the EEF platform for practical work with investors. The EEF will have multiple platforms for the regions to present their investment opportunities.

<http://deita.ru/news/crazy/13.03.2017/5190232-regiony-dalnego-vostoka-podklyuchat-k-delovoy-programmt-vef>

3 March 2017, RIA Novosti

Putin gives instructions to include judo tournament in EEF cultural programme

Putin gave the instructions following a meeting with members of the Forum of Student and Youth Organization Leaders. A tournament for the prizes of All-Japan Judo Federation President Yasuhiro Yamashita will be included in the EEF 2017 cultural programme starting from 2017. Young people aged 13 to 15 will compete for this Cup.

<https://ria.ru/sport/20170303/1489254449.html>

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN THE FAR EAST

29 March 2017, Forumvostok.ru

Russia, China discuss Far East cooperation at International Arctic Forum

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin and Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang held a meeting in Arkhangelsk to discuss prospects for developing the Arctic and the joint use of the Northern Sea Route as well as cooperation in the energy sector and comprehensive cooperation in the nuclear industry and civil aviation. The sides noted that the Russian government is creating qualitatively new mechanisms to support investors, for example preferential business regimes in the Far East, which are much in demand today among Chinese companies.

Chinese investors are currently implementing more than 20 projects with total investment of roughly USD 3 billion in priority development areas and the five regions where a free port regime is in effect.

<https://forumvostok.ru/na-mezhdunarodnom-arkticheskom-forume-rossiya-i-kitaj-obsudilisotrudnichestvo-na-dalnem-vostoke>

29 March 2017, PrimaMedia.ru

Investment funds for mining, infrastructure and construction projects to be established in Far East

The relevant corresponding memorandums were signed by the Far East Development Fund and the company Metropol. Each fund will have resources of USD 1 billion in 2017. The Far East Development Fund will contribute 10%, Asian partners – up to 80% and Russian investors – roughly 10%.

The new funds will invest in 15 projects in gold production, two major copper and gold projects in the Far East and seven projects in the construction of new infrastructure and tourism real estate.

<http://primamedia.ru/news/579513>

16 March 2017, RIA Novosti

Russians submit over 74,000 applications for 'Far Eastern hectare'

The third stage of the 'Far Eastern hectare' programme began on 1 February 2017 under which any Russian can become a land owner in the Far East. To date, some 7,600 people have received free land plots. The biggest demand has been for land in the Primorye and Khabarovsk Territories, Sakhalin and Yakutia. Most applicants are planning to use the plots for individual housing construction and also to implement agricultural and tourism project. At present, there are 35 support measures for recipients of the 'Far Eastern hectare', from grants to first-time farmers and compensation for expenses on seed materials to compensation on rates for the purchase of different types of equipment.

<https://ria.ru/society/20170316/1490159979.html>

7 March 2017, EastRussia

Putin establishes special procedure for foreigners to enter Far East

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a law introducing a simplified visa regime in the Far East. According to the law, foreigners will be able to travel to any of the five Far Eastern regions with a free port regime – the Primorye and Khabarovsk Territories, Sakhalin Region, Chukotka and Kamchatka. In order to obtain a visa, foreign citizens will have to log on to a special website created by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and complete an application. If approved, the visa will be issued right at the Russian border. The application review period is 4 days. The visa will be valid for 30 days from the time it is issued with a permitted stay in Russia of up to 8 days. The visa will be free of charge.

<http://www.eastrussia.ru/news/prezident-rossii-ustanovil-osobyy-poryadok-vezda-inostrannykh-grazhdan-na-dalniy-vostok>

FAR EAST ECONOMY

15 March 2017, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Russia, Vietnam to triple trade turnover by 2020

Russia and Vietnam are intensifying cooperation with priority attention being given to the expansion of Russian-Vietnamese trade and investment cooperation. Both countries intend to increase mutual trade turnover to USD 10 billion by 2020. The Far East could be the main driver for the development of bilateral relations, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Trutnev noted during a working visit to Vietnam.

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Trinh Dinh Dung confirmed his country's interest in cooperated with Russia and instructed his country's line ministries to be more active in Russia's Far East. Vietnamese businesses are interested in shipbuilding, mining, woodworking

and seafood processing, he said.

<https://rg.ru/2017/03/15/vetnam-i-rossiia-k-2020-godu-uvelichat-tovarooborot-vtroe.html>

13 March 2017, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Over 50 new enterprises to appear in Far East

More than 50 new enterprises that will create some 4,500 new jobs will start operating in the Far East by the end of 2017. Investors are prepared to invest RUB 60 billion in organizing production.

A unified information database of investment projects that can be accessed by the Ministry for the Development of Russian Far East, investors and the regional authorities will be set up to optimize work with existing residents of priority development areas and the Free Port of Vladivostok. The system will help to promptly monitor the implementation of each project. The final version of the portal will be presented at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok on 6–7 September.

<https://rg.ru/2017/03/13/reg-dfo/v-2017-godu-na-dalnem-vostoke-poiavitsia-50-novyh-predpriyatij.html>

NEW FAR EAST DEVELOPMENT MECHANISMS: SUCCESS STORIES

20 March 2017, Interfax

JGC Evergreen launches construction on second phase of greenhouses in Khabarovsk priority development area

The Russian-Japanese company plans to launch operation of the new vegetable complex in September 2017. The 2.3-hectare greenhouse will grow tomatoes and cucumbers and have capacity to grow 2,000 tonnes of vegetables per year. The second phase of the greenhouse complex will cost RUB 500 million. The Japanese corporation JGC has also received an invitation from the regional authorities to take part in projects involving medical services, wood processing and food products.

<http://www.interfax-russia.ru/FarEast/print.asp?id=818085&sec=1671&type=news>

20 March 2017, Interfax

Industrial park to be established in Komsomolsk-on-Amur

Parus Industrial Park, a new resident in the Komsomolsk ASEZ, has signed the relevant agreement with the Far East Development Corporation. The investor plans to set up a single cluster on a 12.3-hectare area with a focus on building aircraft and ships as well as manufacturing oil production and oil refining products, energy efficient devices, and equipment. Total investment in the project will amount to RUB 175 million. Roughly ten residents of the priority development area are expected to set up production at the site by 2026.

<http://www.interfax-russia.ru/FarEast/news.asp?id=816316&sec=1679>