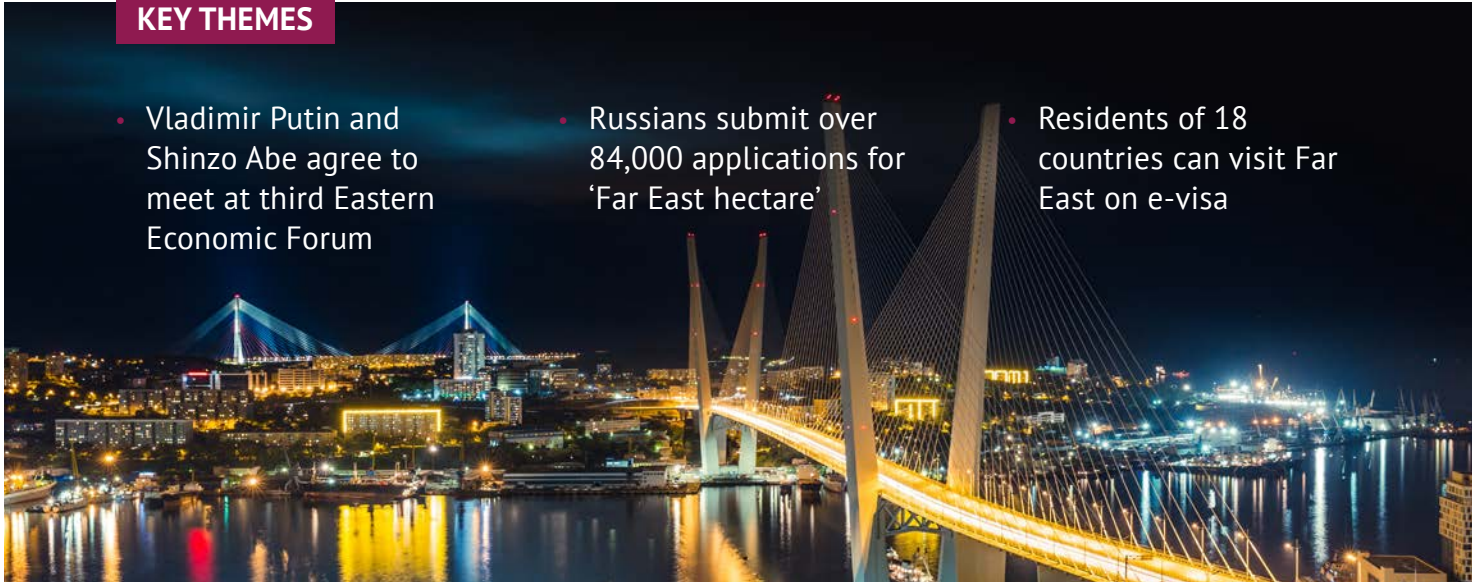


KEY THEMES

- Vladimir Putin and Shinzo Abe agree to meet at third Eastern Economic Forum
- Russians submit over 84,000 applications for 'Far East hectare'
- Residents of 18 countries can visit Far East on e-visa



EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM NEWS

27 April 2017, TASS

Vladimir Putin and Shinzo Abe agree to meet at third Eastern Economic Forum

During a meeting in Moscow, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe discussed prospects for developing Russian–Japanese cooperation in the political, trade, economic, and humanitarian spheres. Putin and Abe underscored that they plan to meet at the G20 Summit in Hamburg in July and at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok on 6–7 September.

<http://tass.ru/politika/4217645>

24 April 2017, Far Eastern Capital

Far East comprehensive development plans to be presented at EEF 2017

Two thematic sessions will be planned to present the 'Far Eastern sections' state programmes and comprehensive regional development plans at the EEF 2017. Another session will be devoted to developing 'Far Eastern sections' in the development plans and investment programmes of state-owner companies.

The 'Far Eastern' sections of the state programmes and state-owned companies, and the comprehensive development plans for Far Eastern regions will become a key part of the 'Socioeconomic Development of the Far East and Baikal Region' state programme.

http://dvpkapital.ru/regionnow/primorskij-kraj_24.04.2017_9804_vo-vladivostoke-na-vef-prezentujut-kompleksnye-plany-razvitija-dalnevostochnykh-regionov.html

20 April 2017, EastRussia

'Far East Street' Festival to run for one week at EEF 2017

The 'Far East Street' Festival will be held from 5–10 September as part of the third Eastern Economic Forum. Each Far Eastern region will erect its own original pavilion to present its achievements in economics and culture on the waterfront campus of Far Eastern Federal University.

Deputy Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East Alexander Krutikov said that this year the regions are expected to devote most of their attention to revealing the economic models of their development as well as cruise, medical, gastronomic, beach, ethno, eco and rural tourism.

<http://www.eastrussia.ru/news/ulitsa-dalnego-vostoka-na-vef-budet-rabotat-nedelyu>

19 April 2017, Komsomolskaya Pravda

Best Far East social projects to be presented at EEF 2017

The presentation of the winners of the 'Good Deeds in a Good Region!' regional programme will take place on the Forum's zero day – 5 September 2017. The programme aims to support socially important projects in education, the public sector, culture, religion, art, and sports. Grants of at least RUB 50 million will be allocated to support the projects. The implementation of the projects should contribute to the creation of comfortable living conditions in the Far East.

<http://www.dv.kp.ru/online/news/2719731>

STATE POLICY IN THE FAR EAST

20 April 2017, Forumvostok.ru

Russians submit over 84,000 applications for 'Far East hectares'

The expert roundtable 'Year of the Far Eastern Hectare Law: Initial Results and Prospects' was held in Moscow on 20 April as part of preparations for the third Eastern Economic Forum. Deputy Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East Sergey Kachayev said that more than 84,000 applications have been submitted for land plots to date and that 12,000 plots have already been allocated to citizens for use.

The average time between submitting an application and receiving a land plot is currently 33 business days. Improvements in work by the authorized bodies and their interaction with the Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography (Rosreestr) when issuing hectares will reduce this period to 21 days.

<https://forumvostok.ru/eksperty-obsudili-pervyj-god-realizatsii-zakona-o-dalnevostochnom-gektare>

17 April 2017, RBK

Residents of 18 countries will be able to visit Far East on e-visa

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev has approved a list of countries whose citizens will benefit from the preferential visa regime. The list includes Brunei, India, China, North Korea, Mexico, Singapore, Japan, Algeria, Bahrain, Iran, Qatar, Kuwait, Morocco, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and Turkey. Foreigners will be able to obtain eight-day e-visas starting on 1 August.

The testing of checkpoints will begin on 1 July. The first checkpoints under the new system will take effect in Vladivostok. Eventually, foreign nationals will be able to use the e-visa to enter any of five Far Eastern regions where a free port regime is in effect – the Primorye, Kamchatka and Khabarovsk Territories, Sakhalin Region, and Chukotka Autonomous District.

<http://www.rbc.ru/rbcfreenews/58f4a8da9a7947b63015f176>

17 April 2017, NewsMail.ru

Russia launches hotline for Far East investors

By calling 8 (800) 234 8509, entrepreneurs can provide information about problems that arise when implementing investment projects. Established by the Far East Investment and Export Agency, the hotline will be open 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Calls within Russia are free. Far East Investment and Export Agency General Director Leonid Petukhov said the most pressing issues will be submitted to the investment committee of the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East.

<https://news.mail.ru/society/29451762>

FAR EAST ECONOMY

17 April 2017, TASS

First freight shipped via Primorye-2 international transport corridor

A container was shipped from China's Changchun, passed through the Russian state border near the Kraskino checkpoint, and was then sent from Zarubino port in the Primorye Territory by ferry to a recipient in South Korea. The data obtained as a result of the experiment should help to eliminate existing barriers when delivering transit freight.

Experts predict the Primorye-2 international transport corridor will transport 23 million tonnes of grain and 15 million tonnes of container freight by 2030.

<http://tass.ru/transport/4187612>

7 April 2017, Komsomolskaya Pravda

World's first floating NPP to be built in Far East

The construction of a floating nuclear power plant in Chukotka's Pevek has been included in a special 'Far Eastern section' of the Nuclear Energy Industry Development state programme.

The floating nuclear power plant in Pevek with capacity of 70 MW will be put into operation in 2019. The NPP will include the floating Akademik Lomonosov nuclear power unit and coastal hydraulic engineering infrastructure. The construction of the power unit will cost RUB 21.5 billion.

<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26664.7/368505>

NEW FAR EAST DEVELOPMENT MECHANISMS: SUCCESS STORIES

26 April 2017, RIA Novosti

Expanding the borders of the Kamchatka PDA will allow for implementing projects for RUB 13 bln

Yury Trutnev and the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East have supported the Kamchatka Territory Government's initiative to expand the Kamchatka Advanced Special Economic Zone by another four districts in the region. Expanding the ASEZ will make it possible to implement eight investment projects in the mining and fishing industries with total private investment of RUB 13 billion.

<https://ria.ru/economy/20170426/1493156073.html>

22 April 2017, TASS

Sixteenth ASEZ established in Far East

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev has signed a resolution on the establishment of the Nikolayevsk Advanced Special Economic Zone in the Khabarovsk Territory. Nine investors have already expressed a willingness to join the priority development area to implement their projects. The main focuses of the companies include fishing and fish farming, water transport, and the repair and assembly of machinery and equipment. Total private investment will amount to RUB 3.1 billion, and more than 2,400 jobs will be created.

<http://tass.ru/ekonomika/4203312>

17 April 2017, REGNUM

Khabarovsk, Sovetskaya Gavan to be granted status of free ports

A document on this status has already been drafted and will be adopted by the Russian Government at the Eastern Economic Forum 2017. The Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East believes that granting the status of a free port will help to attract more investors to these cities, Deputy Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East Alexander Krutikov said. In particular, the entry procedure will be simplified for foreign businessmen using an e-visa.

<https://regnum.ru/news/economy/2263887.html>

14 April 2017, Finmarket

RUB 34 bln to be allocated to Far East investors for infrastructure development

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said at a government meeting that thanks to these subsidies, entrepreneurs can compensate their expenses on building modern infrastructure and cut costs on connections to power grids and gas distribution networks.

The criteria for receiving the infrastructure development subsidies include the amount of added value, tax revenue, and mandatory payments from implementing the project to all levels of the budget system as well as the amount of private investment raised per one rouble of state support.

<http://www.finmarket.ru/database/news/4509538>