



MONTHLY INFORMATION DIGEST

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE FAR EAST**

04/2021



EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM EVENTS

23 April 2021, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

First meeting of the EEF 2021 Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee of the Eastern Economic Forum 2021, which will take place on 2–4 September in Vladivostok, held its first meeting. Participants discussed venue zoning and business programme shaping, shared the press service of the Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy in the Far Eastern Federal District.

rg.ru/2021/04/23/reg-dfo/sostoialos-pervoe-zasedanie-orgkomiteta-vef-2021.html

INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM EVENTS

19 April 2021, Interfax

The 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 6th International Arctic Forum will take place in spring 2022 in St. Petersburg

The Organizing Committee of the 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 6th International Arctic Forum has decided to hold the Forum in late March/early April 2022 in St. Petersburg. Meanwhile, the Forum will take place for two years in a row (2022 and 2023) because of Russia's chairmanship in the Arctic Council and the importance of the Arctic agenda.

interfax.ru/events/news/761939

STATE POLICY IN THE FAR EAST AND ARCTIC

22 April 2021, The Arctic

First meeting of the Council to Develop Far East, Arctic and Antarctic

Deputy Chair of the Federation Council Galina Karelova held the first meeting of the Council to Develop Far East, Arctic and Antarctic. Participants have determined the key activities of the Council: reviewing the status of government policies and outcomes of strategic planning in the Far East and the Arctic zone, as well as improving the legislation.

ru.arctic.ru/news/20210422/992962.html

21 April 2021, RIA Novosti

The Northern Latitudinal Railway will boost the Arctic exploration

The construction of the Northern Latitudinal Railway, a railway line in the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous District, may be financed with an infrastructure loan. President Putin stated this in his address to the Federal Assembly.

"Please note that the infrastructure and budget loans will be fully under the control of the Federal Treasury and will be provided exclusively for specific projects that have been thoroughly analysed by experts at the federal level... For example, in conjunction with our major companies and using the proposed mechanism, the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area will begin the construction of the Northern Latitudinal Railway. This is the railway that will spur the development of the richest resources of the Arctic. This project has been in the works for a long time now, and it's time to launch it, since we can do so now," noted Russian President.

ria.ru/20210421/arktika-1729271586.html



21 April 2021, TASS

Mikhail Mishustin approved government programme for supporting Arctic indigenous peoples

The implementation of the programme will help to improve the well-being of indigenous peoples, reduce unemployment, increase traditional economic activities, and the tourist appeal of the Arctic. A detailed implementation plan is due to be developed by the Russian Ministry for the Development of the Far East and Arctic within the next three months. The programme includes six main areas, the first of which is aimed at developing infrastructure. In particular, it involves providing small-numbered peoples with mobile communications and Internet access, assisting in developing their arts and crafts, and subsidising the purchase of equipment for meat and fish processing.

tass.ru/ekonomika/11192889

19 April 2021, Izvestiya

Russian Government approved action plan for the Arctic Zone Development Strategy and the Basic Principles of the State Policy in the Arctic

The action plan for implementing the Arctic Zone Development Strategy and the Basic Principles of the State Policy in the Arctic includes the following measures: solving social problems, creating a comfortable living environment, attracting new investors, stimulating industrial production, and ensuring state security. The appropriate document was approved by Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin. The plan contains a total of 268 measures, most of which will be implemented in 2021–2022.

iz.ru/1153398/2021-04-19/pravitelstvo-rossii-utverdilo-plan-po-realizacii-strategii-razvitiia-arktiki

15 April 2021, TASS

Russian Government approved additional measures of state support for small businesses in the Arctic

A package of amendments to current legislation simplifying small businesses' access to government support mechanisms in Russia's Arctic zone will expand the range of potential residents in the Russian Arctic zone, said Alexey Chekunkov, the Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic. In addition, he emphasized that thanks to the additional adjustments, small companies will be able to develop business in all municipalities within the Arctic zone, not only in the place of registration, as is currently the case. Also, small businesses applying for resident status in the Arctic Zone will no longer need to commit to making capital investments in real estate.

tass.ru/ekonomika/11157427

12 April 2021, RIA Novosti

Vladimir Putin instructed the Government to review the possibility of keeping Arctic LNG offshore transshipment

The President of Russia, following a meeting with representatives of the business community on 11 March 2021 to raise investment activity, instructed the Government and the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, to consider maintaining the possibility of ship-to-ship loading of liquefied natural gas produced in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation.

ria.ru/20210412/arktika-1727845560.html

3 April 2021, RIA Novosti

Russian Government approved the new Arctic development programme



The initiative aims to accelerate the economic development of the territories that make up the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation; to increase these territories' contribution to the country's economic growth; and to provide conditions for the macro-region's sustainable socio-economic development. The government decree also addresses the development of the Arctic zone as a strategic resource base and its rational use to accelerate economic growth, and the development of the Northern Sea Route as a globally competitive national transport artery.

According to the document, the total budget allocations for the programme implementation is more than RUB 19.5 billion, including RUB 3.4 billion in 2021, RUB 6 billion in 2022, RUB 5.2 billion in 2023, and RUB 4.9 billion in 2024.

ria.ru/20210403/arktika-1604062055.html

2 April 2021, RBC

Russian Government will allocate funds for the Arctic's new survey vessel

Mikhail Mishustin has signed a decree allocating more than RUB 7 billion for the construction of a survey vessel to operate in the Arctic, with commissioning scheduled for 2024.

The decision will help to partially meet the demand of resource companies and other users of the NSR for hydrographic support. The construction of the new vessel is part of the federal project entitled 'Development of the Northern Sea Route', which aims to unlock the potential of the NSR and turn it into a transport corridor of global importance.

rbc.ru/rbcfreenews/6066e7209a7947526dbeba2e

ECONOMY OF THE FAR EAST AND ARCTIC

23 April 2021, Lenta.ru

Russian Far East and Arctic can become the centres of the country's green transformation

The Far East and the Arctic have unique natural resources and an enormous potential both for their conservation and for the development of new, green types of production, renewable energy, and the creation of tourism eco-clusters. These regions can become cutting-edge centres of Russia's green transformation and its strongholds, said Mikhail Kuznetsov, Director of the Eastern Center of State Planning, an autonomous federal research institution.

He also added that the Far East and the Arctic are a great testing ground for the development of alternative and renewable energy sources. A draft road map for attracting private investment in the development of distributed generation in remote and isolated areas of these regions is now being actively developed in cooperation with the Ministry of Economic Development. The roadmap will make it possible to remove administrative barriers and form state support measures for businesses when implementing investment projects in the distributed energy sector.

lenta.ru/news/2021/04/23/zeli/

20 April 2021, Arctic Russia

A 100th application for the status of the Russian Arctic zone resident: a potential investor plans to upgrade power supply facilities in Yakutia

The 100th application for resident status in the Russian Arctic Zone has been received from the Comprehensive Energy Solutions (KER LLC). The potential investor plans to implement a project to upgrade power



supply facilities in Yakutia. The company will install modern energy-saving power plants in six settlements located in isolated areas beyond the Arctic Circle.

arctic-russia.ru/news/100-ya-zayavka-na-status-rezidenta-azrf-potentsialnyy-investor-planiruet-modernizatsiyu-obektov-ener/

15 April 2021, Gazeta.ru

Russian Government plans to expand the Far Eastern Hectare programme for the Arctic zone

More than 1 million hectares are planned for the programme, and areas are being identified, including those in the vicinity of tourist destinations.

Applicants will be able to obtain land plots under a simplified procedure and in a shorter time frame. Special attention will be paid to preserving the traditions and culture of the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia, and the Far East. In addition, exceptions will be introduced for resident companies in the Arctic zone regarding requirements for financial investments in construction or real estate improvements. Also, future residents will not have to conduct operations in only one municipality, where the company is registered, as the way things are now.

gazeta.ru/business/news/2021/04/15/n_15865076.shtml

14 April 2021, TASS

Primorye Territory signed an agreement to create the Digital Primorye information system

The Government of Primorye Territory, the administrations of Vladivostok, Artem, Nakhodka, and Ussuriysk, and private investor Digital Primorye LLC signed a concession agreement for the Digital Primorye information system in the form of a public-private partnership (PPP), which is to launch digital services and high-tech systems in these cities and in Primorye Territory as a whole by April 2022. The system will support more than 30 services, including a unified card for residents of Primorye Territory (which can be used to pay for transportation, and receive discounts and social benefits), a unified Digital Primorye Territory portal for residents and businesses, where up-to-date information and services in various areas (education, healthcare, tourism, utilities, and culture) can be obtained, and a student card for paying fares with benefits, paying for meals, and accessing educational institutions.

tass.ru/v-strane/11140867

NEW MECHANISMS FOR THE FAR EAST DEVELOPMENT: SUCCESS STORIES

20 April 2021, TASS

Laying the underwater fibre optic line in the Arctic will start in May–June

Deep-water cable laying as part of the construction of a trans-Arctic underwater fibre optic line between Murmansk and Vladivostok on the Northern Sea Route is a key project for the information support development in the Arctic region, and the creation of the Big NSR project, which may run from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, is now under consideration, said Deputy Head of the Russian Ministry of Transport Alexander Poshivay.

The length of the line called the Polar Express will be 12,65 thousand km. The line will be laid on the shortest route between Europe and Asia. At the same time, the speed of signal transmission along the line will be up to 100 Tbit/s. The work itself is scheduled to be completed in 2026.

tass.ru/v-strane/11194529



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

ORGANIZER OF THE EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM AND THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM