

KEY THEMES

- Russia and China launch new gas pipeline
- VTB issues first Far East mortgage loans
- Amur Region governor calls 2019 historic for region



EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM NEWS

12 December 2019, TASS

Government commission approves construction of bridge to Elena Island in Primorye

The bridge to Yelena Island will become one of the most important components of the Vladivostok Ring Road (VKAD), which will connect the city's central district and the Egersheld area, where the commercial sea port is located, to Russky Island.

The final decision on the construction of the Vladivostok Ring Road was announced at the 5th Eastern Economic Forum, where the Far East Investment and Export Agency and Avtodor-Invest signed an agreement.

<https://tass.ru/ekonomika/7334385>

13 December 2019, Kp.ru

Far Eastern designers present their collections at Vostok Fashion Day

The event was organized by the Roscongress Foundation as part of the Days of the Far East in Moscow Festival, which was held on 2–14 December. The best Far Eastern collections were presented at the Hyundai Motorstudio innovative multi-format brand space.

Vostok Fashion Day was a follow-up to a show presented by Far Eastern designers at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok in September 2019. The Far East fashion show Fashion Forpost was held at Far Eastern Federal University as part of the cultural programme during the Forum.

<https://www.kp.ru/daily/27068.7/4136825/>

30 December 2019

Roscongress Insider analytical digest presents EEF 2019 results

The publication primarily focuses on expanding economic horizons, international cooperation, and the social sector as well as key problems in these areas and the most effective ways to solve them. These issues are traditionally addressed within the Eastern Economic Forum's business programme.

Prominent government officials, representatives of the federal authorities, heads of Russian regions, leading economists, representatives of the business community, and opinion leaders serve as experts who evaluate the results of the Eastern Economic Forum in the digest.

Roscongress Insider is a Roscongress Foundation project that recaps the major results of the country's largest business events.

<https://roscongress.org/en/news/roscongress-insider-releases-analytical-digest-with-eeef-2019-results/>

STATE POLICY IN THE FAR EAST

18 December 2019, TASS

Russian Ministry of Energy to present options for Baimsky Mining and Processing Plant to connect to major Baimka copper and gold deposits in Chukotka

This announcement was made by Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East Alexander Kozlov following a meeting of the Presidium of the State Commission for the Development of the Arctic in Murmansk. The Chukotka authorities expect the launch of the Baimka gold and copper deposit to double the gross regional product.

In October, Deputy Prime Minister and Russian Presidential Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District Yury Trutnev instructed the Ministry of Energy and RusHydro to come up with mechanisms for the power connection of the Baimka ore zone, which would allow it to be developed as efficiently as possible with minimal investments from the budget.

<https://tass.ru/ekonomika/7366079>

16 December 2019, Kp.ru

VTB issues first Far East mortgage loans

VTB has been the first market leader to start working under the new state subsidy programme for residents of the Far East starting from 16 December. On the first day, the bank signed three loan agreements and accepted over 300 applications as part of the programme. The interest rate under the new programme is only 2% and the loan term is up to 20 years. The maximum possible loan amount is RUB 6 million with a minimum down payment of 20% of the value of the property.

<https://www.chel.kp.ru/online/news/3706772/>

10 December 2019, Vzglyad.Ru

Amur Region governor calls 2019 historic for region

Amur Region Governor Vasily Orlov highlighted the most important events of the outgoing year for the Amur Region, including the completion of the construction of a bridge to China, the launch of the Power of Siberia gas pipeline, and the start of construction on the second stage of the Vostochny Cosmodrome, the Amur Gas Chemical Plant, a cross-border cableway, and a new runway.

He also noted the importance of the decision to build the Skovorodinsky Methanol Plant and the first launch of a satellite assembled in the Amur Region from the Vostochny Cosmodrome.

<https://vz.ru/news/2019/12/10/1012923.html>

4 December 2019, TASS

First RUB 300 million allocated to Vladivostok as Primorye Territory capital

The city became the administrative centre of the region at a session of the regional parliament in late November, which will allow Vladivostok to receive additional funding from the regional budget for the performance of functions as a regional capital.

The Primorye administration will be transformed into a government by the end of this year and will work in its new form starting from 2020.

<https://tass.ru/v-strane/7258995>

FAR EAST ECONOMY

20 December 2019, TASS

More foreign liners and a route through Russia: How cruise tourism is developing in the Far Eastern Federal District

The Primorye Territory has set a record for the number of visits by foreign liners over the last three years, Sakhalin has received three large foreign vessels, Kamchatka is organizing expeditions along the Northern Sea Route, and the Magadan Region is building infrastructure for tourists in Nagaev Bay.

At the same time, the regions are developing the concept of a Far Eastern cruise line that is expected to take the industry to a new level.

<https://tass.ru/obschestvo/7388323>

20 December 2019, TASS

Nikkei: Japanese companies intend to take part in construction of Far East LNG Plant

A consortium of several Japanese companies intends to take part in the construction of the Far East LNG Plant, which will be implemented as part of the Sakhalin-1 project.

The consortium will include Marubeni Itochu, Japan Petroleum Exploration, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. Their final investment decision may be taken in 2021. The plant is expected to produce 35,000 square metres of OSB boards, formwork, and plywood.

<https://tass.ru/ekonomika/7390817>

6 December 2019, Kp.ru

Far East using salaries and social infrastructure to attract specialists

Russia's Far East has been rapidly developing in recent years. More than 2,000 investment projects are currently being implemented, including 276 that are already up and running.

Almost RUB 800 billion of investments have been invested in the region's economy. Modern enterprises are emerging in the region, jobs are being created, and unique proposals for attracting specialists are being developed thanks to the new economic regimes offered in the region. The Agency for the Development of Human Capital in the Far East is helping people find jobs.

<https://www.kp.ru/daily/27065.7/4133233/>

19 December 2019, Rossiyskaya Gazeta

Japanese doctors teaching Far Easterners to take better care of their health

Japanese businesses are eagerly utilizing the preferential regimes and development tools that have been developed for the Far Eastern Federal District to invest in the economy of the Russian region.

For example, the medical centre JGC Hokuto Medservice LLC, which was founded by JGC Corporation and Hokuto Social Medical Corporation, has the status of a resident of the Free Port of Vladivostok.

The establishment of a Japanese rehabilitation centre in Primorye for patients in the recovery stage from strokes and injuries was discussed at the Eastern Economic Forum in 2016. In December of the same year, a Russian delegation led by President Vladimir Putin discussed this prospect in Tokyo as part of an official visit.

<https://rg.ru/2019/12/18/reg-dfo/iaponskie-vrachi-nauchat-rossii-an-berezhnee-otnositsia-k-svoemu-zdoroviu.html>

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

2 December 2019, RIA Novosti

Russia and China launching new gas pipeline

Moscow and Beijing are launching the Power of Siberia pipeline, which will pump 38 billion cubic metres of gas each year from Russia's Kovykta and Chayandinskoye fields to the Chinese city of Heihe.

The Power of Siberia project is key to Russia's new gas policy. Whereas Europe was previously considered as the main sales market, more and more attention is now being paid to Asia, particularly to China. This not only makes it possible to generate substantial profits, but to also actively develop Siberian deposits.

<https://ria.ru/20191202/1561739426.html>

10 December 2019, TASS

Rosa Khutor planning to commission first parts of Three Volcanoes Recreation Park in Kamchatka in 2025

A resort with 17 km of ski slopes and two cable cars is slated to be built near Goryachaya hill.

The Kamchatka government, the Ministry for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic, the Federal Tourism Agency, and an investment company signed an agreement to build a world-class resort around the volcanoes of Kamchatka on 4 September at the Eastern Economic Forum in 2019.

<https://tass.ru/ekonomika/7306721>

17 December 2019, Kp.ru

Star of the Far East Prize awarded to region's best employers, investors, Far Eastern Hectare recipients, and Khabarovsk International Airport

Russian Deputy Prime Minister and Presidential Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District Yury Trutnev presented awards to the winners of the Star of the Far East public business award, which has been handed out for two years as part of the Days of the Far East in Moscow Festival to show that the region is a "territory of growth". Forty-eight people have won the award over this time. This year, prizes in 11 categories were awarded to journalists, volunteers, media representatives, businessmen, and participants in the Far Eastern Hectare programme.

The winner of the Territorial Development nomination was Khabarovsk Airport at which President Vladimir Putin officially opened a new terminal in September during the fifth EEF.

<https://www.dv.kp.ru/daily/27068/4138153/>

The Roscongress Foundation is a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions, exhibitions, and public events.

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 2,500 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with 118 economic partners; industrialists' and entrepreneurs' unions; and financial, trade, and business associations from 69 countries worldwide.

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