A monthly newsletter featuring updates and highlights related to J-PEAKS.
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* Linked webpages are available in Japanese only unless otherwise noted.

TOPICS J-PEAKS Selects 33 SLP Core Stage Projects



Niigata University has selected 33 projects for the Core Stage of its Strategic Leap Program (SLP) under the J-PEAKS initiative. The program attracted 102 proposals and involved 291 researchers from across the University as principal investigators or co-investigators, highlighting the strong research activity within the institution. As a key component of the Niigata University J-PEAKS research and innovation strategy, SLP supports promising projects in the priority areas of Brain and Life and Food and Health, with the goal of generating world-class research outcomes, securing major external funding, and promoting social implementation. Among the selected projects, 13 focus on Brain and Life, 11 on Food and Health, and 9 span both areas. By drawing on the University's developing research infrastructure and international collaboration networks, these projects aim to advance interdisciplinary research and create new research opportunities.

Researchers from universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas, including Chubu University and Can Tho University, are also participating as co-investigators, further strengthening international research collaboration.

Click here to view the list of selected projects: https://www.niigata-u.ac.jp/j-peaks/news/1250302/

FEATURE AI and Data Science Innovation Center (ADIC) Officially Launches

On October 1, 2026, the AI and Data Science Innovation Center (ADIC) was established, expanding on the former Big Data Activation Research Center. Building on AI and data science, ADIC promotes interdisciplinary research collaborations within and beyond the University and supports research projects under the J-PEAKS Strategic Leap Program (SLP).A key driver of these efforts is collaboration with Chubu University, a J-PEAKS partner institution. Following the signing of a university-wide partnership agreement on September 1, 2026, Niigata University and Chubu University have strengthened cooperation through the Chubu University Center for Mathematical Science and Artificial Intelligence(CMSAI).

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This partnership has already led to tangible outcomes. Five joint projects were submitted to the SLP Core Stage, and three were selected. The adopted projects combine Niigata University's research strengths with Chubu University's expertise in AI and mathematical analysis, covering areas such as extracellular vesicle-based diagnostics and therapeutics, AI analysis of 3D human brain vascular pathology, and behavioral analysis of developmental disorder models.

Using these initiatives as a model, ADIC will continue to connect researchers across disciplines and institutions, fostering new research fields and advancing collaborative research through J-PEAKS.



With senior leaders from Chubu University at the entrance of ADIC



Networking reception celebrating the signing of the partnership agreement, held in September 2026

REPORT FHI Forum 2026 Fosters New Connections

The Center for Food & Health Innovation and Social Co-Creation (FHI) held the Center for Food & Health Innovation and Social Co-Creation Forum 2026 on November 3 at Niigata University's Asahimachi Campus. The forum showcased research activities in the field of Food and Health and promoted interdisciplinary exchange. The event featured 48 poster presentations by Niigata University researchers and attracted approximately 90 participants, including representatives from local companies and public research institutes. Active discussions throughout the forum created opportunities for new collaborations and joint research.

The program included presentations on FHI activities and strategy, researcher short presentations, and a poster session. FHI will continue to foster collaboration among researchers, companies, and other partners to advance research and innovation in the Food and Health field.





More information: https://www.fhi.niigata-u.ac.jp/topics/10758/

NEW J-PEAKS Introduction Video Released

To help a wider audience learn about the initiatives of Niigata University J-PEAKS, we have released an introductory video.
The video provides an easy-to-understand overview of J-PEAKS, highlighting its key research areas as well as the development of human resources, research equipment, and facilities through the use of photographs and illustrations. We hope it will deepen understanding of the goals and activities of the J-PEAKS initiative and showcase Niigata University's vision and efforts to strengthen research excellence. We invite you to watch the video and learn more about J-PEAKS.
The second video in the series is currently in production and is scheduled for release around January 2027. Stay tuned!

CHECK **Watch the video here: https://youtu.be/AeedzMLZL_s**













J-PEAKS Mini Column—Voices from the Field

The AI and Data Science Innovation Center (ADIC) has officially launched, building on the former Big Data Activation Research Center with a new organizational structure, including an Interdisciplinary Research Division and a jointly operated laboratory with Chubu University's CMSAI. Many projects selected under the Strategic Leap Program (SLP) are expected to collaborate with ADIC, and development has begun on a smart home facility that will provide a new environment for research validation and demonstration. While ADIC has taken a major step forward with its renewed structure and logo, its mission is just beginning. By supporting a wide range of research activities across the University and listening closely to researchers' needs, ADIC aims to foster innovation and help bring new research challenges to fruition. [SE]

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Updates on J-PEAKS–related events and activities are available here.

○Niigata Univ. J-PEAKS Internal Website
https://app.cais.niigata-u.ac.jp/shurl/fw/2PLWiy

To support timely information sharing and ensure transparency, materials such as the program's overall design, budget allocations, and meeting documents are available to internal users. For more detailed information, please scan the QR code.