

October 25, 2023

East Japan Railway Company

The University of Tokyo

JR East and The University of Tokyo enter a 100-year agreement

The opening of The University of Tokyo GATEWAY Campus, the first campus in Japan focusing on planetary health

- East Japan Railway Company (JR East) and The University of Tokyo (UTokyo) have concluded a 100-year industry-academia collaboration agreement to achieve planetary health that will create ways to lead a fulfilled life a century into the future.
- The collaborative creation project “Planetary Health Design Laboratory” (PHD Lab.) which aims to realize planetary health will be launched. The PHD Lab. will harness JR East Group’s assets such as train stations and railways as experimental fields in order to demonstrate UTokyo’s diverse and cutting-edge expertise and build ways of fulfilled life for the future.
- The University of Tokyo GATEWAY Campus is set to open, functioning as a base for PHD Lab. This will be the first campus focusing on planetary health in Japan, and will be located in TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY, which is scheduled to open by the end of FY2024. We aim to solve global-scale social issues that come from all over the world, by utilizing TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY as an experimental playground.



1 Industry-academia collaboration overview

(1) The collaboration vision: Planetary Health

Planetary Health is the collaboration vision. Based on analyzing the impact of economic activities on human health, urban environment, and nature, JR East and UTokyo will strike the right balance between people, city, and the Earth and maintain the relationship in good condition.

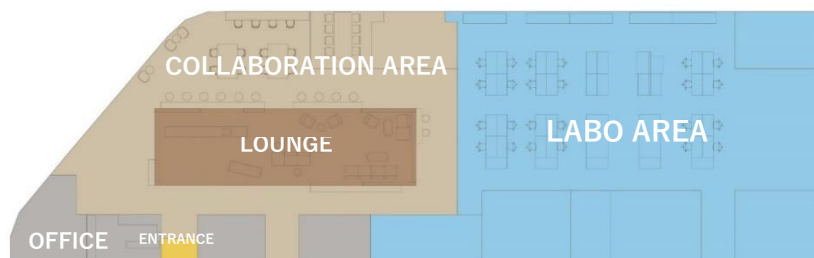
JR East Group, which possesses a variety of assets that will serve as experimental fields, including TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY, has partnered with UTokyo, which creates diverse and cutting-edge expertise, in order to achieve a balanced and healthy equilibrium between people, cities, and the Earth, taking on the challenge of creating a sustainable way of fulfilled life a century into the future.

(2) Main collaborative creation content

We will pursue the following important items under the PHD Lab. collaborative creation project in order to achieve planetary health.

① Opening The University of Tokyo GATEWAY Campus

The University of Tokyo GATEWAY Campus (approx. 990 m²) will be the first in Japan to conduct research focusing on planetary health, and will open on the 9th floor of TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY Complex Building I (South). As the base for PHD Lab., it will feature laboratory and collaborative areas, functioning as an interdisciplinary space where researchers from across Japan and around the world come together to pursue collaborative endeavors with other UTokyo campuses (Hongo/Yayoi, Komaba, Kashiwa, Shirokanedai, etc.) along with companies and accelerators.



※Images and layouts are for illustrative purposes only.

② Demonstration projects harnessing JR East Group assets and implementation of cutting-edge research in daily life

We will demonstrate UTokyo's diverse and cutting-edge expertise on planetary health by harnessing TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY and other JR East Group assets as experimental fields. This will further propel innovation in JR East Group mobility and lifestyle solutions businesses as part of a collaborative process aimed at creating a way of a fulfilled life focusing on well-being.

③ Collaborative creation of a global startup ecosystem

Implementation of joint research partnered with a variety of companies and accelerator programs created under the theme of planetary health will further promote startups from UTokyo, which already boasts the largest number of university-based startups in Japan*

**From the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's FY2020 University-launched Venture Business Survey*

2 A future way of life that is good for people, cities, and the Earth will arise from the University of Tokyo GATEWAY Campus

TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY will be an experimental playground for the creation of a future way of life that is good for people, cities, and the Earth.

① Smart cities for people and the planet × information science and technology/urban engineering

We will create a new type of smart city that harnesses the city's data infrastructure (City OS). We will recommend the optimal diet for an individual as well as reduce food waste throughout the city. We will create a people-focused, environmentally conscious smart city.



② The world's greenest city × agriculture/landscape ecology and planning

In an approximately 2.7 ha green area with native plants, we will join forces with students and local residents to create the world's most comfortable and advanced urban green spaces. We will work on a circular bioeconomy which creates some materials from the plants growing in the city and commercialize.



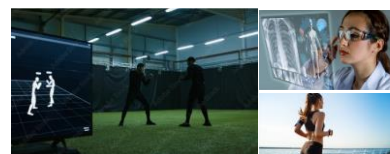
③ A city where you can try sustainable future food × biology /engineering

We will make future food accessible to the world. We will provide opportunities to have sustainable food such as lab-grown meat in the office cafeterias. Analyzing consumers' needs in this city, UTokyo will further develop future food ingredients.



④ A city for the well-being of people and the planet × medical science / advanced science

We will develop and demonstrate services that provide a way of fulfilled life focused on well-being. We will provide residents with services that improve sleep through cutting-edge analysis algorithms. In the fitness center at Takanawa Gateway City, we will implement a non-contact motion analysis system to optimize exercise programs.



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TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY is an experimental playground. JR East will refine the knowledge gleaned from collaborative creation, propelling practical application through feedback and analysis of data obtained from a variety of customer contact points. By harnessing the networks of the JR East Group and UTokyo, we will take in services that prove successful through the experimental stage and share those services across Japan and around the world. This leads to a fulfilled way of life.

3 Background of industry-academia collaboration

Through the 100-year partnership between JR East, which is working to create a fulfilled way of life a century into the future, and UTokyo, which aims to create the future through dialogue, JR East and UTokyo will utilize JR East Group's mobility and lifestyle solution businesses to conduct experiments then solve social issues by quickly putting cutting-edge research into practical use.

Inheriting a history of innovation that began with Japan's first railways about 150 years ago, together we look to create a new way of life that leads to planetary health a century into the future.



4 A global network expanding from TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY

This agreement will foster a global startup ecosystem by combining the networks of East Japan Railway and the University of Tokyo. The main partners are as follows.

① NUS College, National University of Singapore

Global Experience Course (GEx) organized by NUS College, National University of Singapore, and “One Earth Guardians Development Program” organized by the University of Tokyo will collaborate to facilitate and support student-initiated initiatives.

The National University of Singapore and JR East have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 19 September 2023 to collaborate and advance innovation and entrepreneurial exchange.

② Institut Pasteur

Institut Pasteur (Paris) signed a letter of intent with the University of Tokyo on October 3, 2023, to establish the Planetary Health Innovation Center (PHIC), one of the components of the future Institut Pasteur du Japon, which will serve as a venue for collaboration between the two institutions. They are considering using TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY as a site to collaborate.

(https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/focus/en/articles/z0707_00035.html)

We will continue to build the global network through collaborations with a diverse range of partners.

Reference

TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY development overview

Inheriting the past as a gateway to Edo (now known as Tokyo) and a history of innovation that began with Japan's first railways, TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY will be an experimental playground to lead a fulfilled way of life a century into the future, where the birth of new culture and business are continuously inspired with the concept of "Global Gateway".

Complex Building I and the area around Takanawa Gateway Station open at the end of FY2024 (March 2025), with the other buildings (Complex Building II, the Center for Cultural Innovations, and Residence Building) and the surrounding areas to open in FY2025.

Official website: <https://www.takanawagateway-city.com>

