



# Bavarian Japanese Chips Cooperation Project

Joint activity of 3 Bavarian clusters:

**Bavarian Chips Alliance:** [Frickinger@bayern-innovativ.de](mailto:Frickinger@bayern-innovativ.de)

**Cluster Automotive:** [Holger.Czuday@bayern-innovativ.de](mailto:Holger.Czuday@bayern-innovativ.de)

**Cluster Power Electronics/ECPE:** [Bernd.Bitterlich@ECPE.org](mailto:Bernd.Bitterlich@ECPE.org)

with friendly support from the Enterprise Europe Network (<https://een.ec.europa.eu>).

## **Motivation:**

Japan is the fourth largest economy in the world by nominal GDP and plays a leading role in the Asia-Pacific region. Technology, the automotive industry and electronics are regarded as the main pillars of the Japanese economy.

With a trade volume of well over seven billion euros, Japan is Bavaria's second most important Asian trading partner. With around 450 Japanese branches and around 8000 Japanese living here, Bavaria is now a stronghold of Japanese companies in Germany. Japan is an attractive co-operation partner for Bavarian companies and universities, particularly in the semiconductor and automotive sectors.

## **Aim:**

Inform and motivate companies and universities to proactively approach co-operation with Japanese partners – especially in the semiconductor and automotive area. We are convinced that players in both countries will benefit equally from the exchange.

## **Actions taken:**

- Presentation “Semiconductors and automotive: attractive areas for cooperation with Japan” at trade fair PCIM, 8 Mai 2025
- First information event, 27 May, Munich and online
- Webinar “Connecting Companies with Japan: the EU Business Hub”, 28 July,
- Second on-site event: “Bavaria–Japan CONNECT: Strengthening Innovation, Supply Chains and Talent Together”, 10 November 2025, Munich and online
- Organising of a joint stand at Semicon Japan in December 2025



## **Summary**

It was demonstrated that Japan is a stable and reliable partner for long-term cooperation – both with companies and universities / research institutions. The high number of participants from industry and academia at both on-site events confirmed the high level of interest in potential cooperation with Japan.

As a result of the organised events, three **specific areas of interest** among the participating organisations were identified:

- a) Innovation and Development  
semiconductor, AI, power modules, wide-band-gap, automotive...
- b) Resilience of Supply Chains,  
stable suppliers and distributors, alternative solutions like ASICs...
- c) Talent Training  
from researcher exchanges to inter-company training for employees

## **Key insights and take aways:**

- Pairing of hardware and software expertise crucial for global innovation and practical success.
- Technological advancement: SiC and GaN for next generation power electronics.
- International collaboration promotes knowledge transfer and access to new markets.
- Raising public awareness of microelectronic careers among students, parents, educators and also among workers from adjacent fields.

Several companies and universities interested to find cooperation partners had completed a short profile.

Please feel free to use the contact details provided above to request further information, or help yourself by checking the following links.



Useful links:



<https://www.dwih-tokyo.org/en/>

German Centre for Research and Innovation Tokyo

It represents and promotes Germany as a location for science, research and innovation. It supports knowledge exchange between Germany and Japan, and communicates with relevant stakeholders in both countries, thereby creating the preconditions for research cooperation.



<https://japan.ahk.de/en>

Joint venture established in 1987 by the European Commission (DG GROW) and the Japanese Government (METI) for promoting all forms of industrial, trade and investment cooperation between the EU and Japan.



Deutsche Industrie- und Handelskammer in Japan  
在日ドイツ商工会議所

<https://www.eu-japan.eu/>

German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan



<https://eubusinesshub.eu/>



# JETRO

Japan External Trade Organization

<https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/>

...promoting foreign direct investment into Japan and helping small to medium size Japanese firms maximize their global export potential.

<https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/j-bridge/> **J-BR!DGE**

J-Bridge is a business platform to facilitate collaboration between Japanese and overseas companies.D



<https://www.smrj.go.jp/english/index.html>

ジエグテック  
**J-GoodTech**

<https://jgoodtech.smrj.go.jp/pub/en/>

Matchmaking platform for SMEs under governmental organization.



**New Energy and Industrial Technology  
Development Organization**

<https://www.nedo.go.jp/english/>

NEDO is a national research and development agency that creates innovation by promoting technological development necessary for realization of a sustainable society.

NEDO acts as an innovation accelerator to contribute to the resolution of social issues by developing and demonstrating high-risk innovative technologies having practical application.



**Japan Science and Technology Agency**

[Overview Overview | Japan Science and Technology Agency \(JST\)](#)

JST (Japan Science and Technology Agency) is a national research and development Agency that plays a central role in the Science, Technology and Innovation Basic Plan\* and aims to promote science and technology.

In order to promote science and technology and provide solutions to social issues, JST comprehensively implements diverse projects in collaboration with universities, research institutions, and industries in Japan and overseas, and makes contributions to the sustainable development of society and the creation of science, technology, and innovation.

For international Collaboration there are two relevant programs:



**ASPIRE** 先端国際共同研究推進事業  
Adopting Sustainable Partnerships for Innovative Research Ecosystem

<https://www.jst.go.jp/aspire/en/index.html>

The Adopting Sustainable Partnerships for Innovative Research Ecosystem (ASPIRE) program aims to maintain and improve Japan's scientific and technological capabilities,



to connect top researchers in Japan and advanced STI countries and regions through international joint research, and to accelerate talent circulation across the world. We aim to promote pioneering R&D, as well as nurture and mobilize the next generation of research leaders.

# SICORP

Strategic International Collaborative Research Program

[https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program\\_e/sicorp\\_e/germany.html](https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program_e/sicorp_e/germany.html)

The aim of this program is to contribute solutions to challenges facing world today and to bolster Japan's scientific and technological capabilities through collaboration with a broad range of countries.