

# Workgroup Discussions results

Group 1

## Presentation Structure

**Time:** 10 minutes

**Format:** Free (E.g. PPT)

**Presenters:** Up to 3

**Content:**

- A brief background of your sector.
- The main issues or areas for improvement that you have identified.
- Some solid examples of your proposed initiatives.
- Expected outcomes if these initiatives are successful.

## A brief background of your sector.

- To interact with local regions of both countries where has even no historical connection helps to make our people understand about both countries
- In Japan we have problem with city structures and people always go to big cities like Tokyo or Osaka for a good job or good salary so at this place people disappear from the regional areas and only old people will be left so the local authorities are now trying to attract more attention from other countries so maybe sister city program can play an important role the local government has much less budget compared to big cities so it is sometimes difficult for them to sustain the relationship with sister city

# The main issues or areas for improvement that you have identified

- Distance between cities (Saint-Petersburg and Tokyo)
- Take more time , little information about local authority
- Develop cooperation between regional small cities
- More information about regional cities
- Advantages in using online format
- Do not spend money to travel
- Meetings are providing more often
- Opportunities to train intercultural communication skills to people in local area

## Some solid examples of your proposed initiatives.

- Conferences in Zoom where students can freely share and talk about topics which they are interested
- Youth interaction between Nigata city and Khabarovsk city, youtube project by the Japanese exchange students in Khabarovsk
- Differences of cooperation between Japan prefectures, Rissia regions and universities
- due the pandemic Start material exchange to know each other more detail (export special local products to each other) it is also useful to economic cooperation
- Sister city partnership focus on human exchange (student, cultural)

# Expected outcomes if these initiatives are successful.

- Be more close to cultural aspects of both countries
- Recognition of the university and small regional cities
- Economical connection between sister cities by exporting special local materials
- Share information on more deeply level
- to be able to break stereotypes each other countries
- Opportunities to feel closer to Russia and Japan (more restaurants with national dishes in both countries)