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## JBIC IG Partners and RDIF agree to collaborate in the Russian bioenergy industry

JBIC IG Partners and the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF), as part of the Russia-Japan Investment Fund (RJIF), together with Japan's Prospect Co., Ltd. and the Russian Forest Products Group (RFP), have agreed to collaborate and consider potential investments in Russia's biofuel industry. A corresponding agreement was announced at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum.

As part of the agreement, the parties plan to cooperate on a project to process timber industry waste into wood pellets for energy production. The project involves the construction of a pellet production plant, with a total capacity up to 135,000 tons per year. Construction of the first facility is expected to start in the summer of 2018, with pellet production to start in 2019. Parties plan to explore further increase of capacity and construction of additional plants with a capacity circa 500,000 tons per year. A significant volume of the product will be exported to Japan.

JBIC IG Partners provides investment advice to RJIF regarding investment opportunities in the Russian Federation. RJIF was established to pursue and implement attractive investment projects to promote economic, trade and investment cooperation between Japan and Russia. Priority sectors identified for cooperation include healthcare, development of smart cities and sustainable technologies, energy, cutting-edge technologies and developing industries and export in the Russian Far Eastern District, as well as other initiatives that will strengthen the trade and economic relations between the two countries.

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On June 30, 2017, JBIC IG Partners is established by Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and Industrial Growth Platform, Inc.(IGPI) with the aim of creating long-term and sustainable value for investors and industries through development of global business opportunities and a disciplined investment approach.