



PRESS RELEASE



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HANAMI STRENGTHENS INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH TWO HIGH-LEVEL HPC EVENTS

HANAMI, one of Europe and Japan's flagship initiatives in High-Performance Computing (HPC), strengthened international scientific cooperation by convening two high-level events in Chamonix, France. Bringing together leading researchers, policymakers and HPC experts from both regions, the events combined scientific exchange with strategic foresight to help shape the future of EU–Japan collaboration in strategic scientific areas.

Chamonix, France | 18 December 2025

Over the course of three days, more than 80 participants from Europe and Japan attended over 50 talks, underscoring the importance of cross-continental cooperation in accelerating innovation in HPC-enabled research.

Organised by the HANAMI project and hosted by the CEA in Chamonix, France, the second edition of the HANAMI High-Level Symposium gathered leading scientists, policymakers and representatives from major European and Japanese institutions connected to different supercomputing centres.

Promoting collaboration in key scientific areas

During the High-Level Symposium, participants discussed recent scientific breakthroughs, shared insights from ongoing joint initiatives and explored new opportunities for deeper transcontinental collaboration. The programme featured keynote lectures, thematic panels, and networking sessions focused on strategic scientific domains, including Climate and Weather Modelling, Biomedical Science, and Materials Science.

By bringing together expertise from multiple disciplines, the symposium fostered the exchange of diverse scientific perspectives and strengthened connections between European and Japanese research communities.

Focusing on the biomedical domain, Ai Shinobu, from the University of Osaka, highlighted the value of direct interaction among researchers. "The interaction between the researchers provides new perspectives and helps anticipate how technologies can be transferred between Europe and Japan. Events like this make collaboration between the two regions more attractive and effective".

From the climate and modelling perspective, Helene Hewitt, from the UK Met Office, emphasised the cross-disciplinary benefits of the discussions. "One of the most impactful aspects of HANAMI is the possibility of cross-fertilisation across different applications. Several ideas presented in the biomedical sessions clearly have potential applications in weather and climate science".

In the area of materials science, Kazuhira Yabana, University of Tsukuba and Visiting Professor at Graz University of Technology, reflected on the long-term opportunities for EU-Japan collaborations beyond the current strategic areas. "The scientific domains addressed within HANAMI are extremely important. Fundamental physics, for example, can play a key role in advancing materials science. These activities allow us to strengthen relationships between teams and explore new and emerging research directions."

Defining a strategic plan for the future

Building on the scientific momentum of the symposium, the HANAMI Europe-Japan HPC Strategic Dialogue, held on 11 December, shifted the focus towards future priorities and long-term cooperation mechanisms. Under the theme "What's next for strategic scientific areas?", high-level speakers from Europe and Japan examined key scientific challenges and discussed how collaboration frameworks could evolve in the coming years.

Pier Luigi Vidale, from the University of Reading, highlighted both progress achieved and future challenges for EU-Japan collaboration in HPC. "Both regions have made significant progress in recent years. Europe is moving towards multi-centre and multi-architecture environments, while Japan continues to develop powerful university-based supercomputers, with future systems increasingly relying on GPUs. This creates strong opportunities for joint development models that can be exploited across different architectures, benefiting both regions."

Together, the High-Level Symposium and the Strategic Dialogue formed a coherent framework, linking in-depth scientific exchange with strategic discussion to guide future EU-Japan cooperation in HPC-enabled research.

These two events firmly position the HANAMI project as a central catalyst for long-term collaboration between Europe and Japan in HPC, supporting a shared ambition to advance scientific excellence through next-generation computing infrastructures and high-impact research.

Throughout the project, HANAMI has contributed to strengthening international cooperation by enabling reciprocal access to supercomputing centres, supporting joint scientific workflows, fostering collaborative publications and code development, and co-developing strategic research agendas among leading institutions in both regions.

About HANAMI

HANAMI (Hpc AlliaNce for Applications and supercoMputing Innovation) is a project funded by the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking under Horizon Europe. It aims to foster deep cooperation between European and Japanese institutions in HPC and advanced scientific applications, with a particular focus on Climate and Weather Modelling, Biomedical Science, and Materials Science.

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