

10. International Collaboration

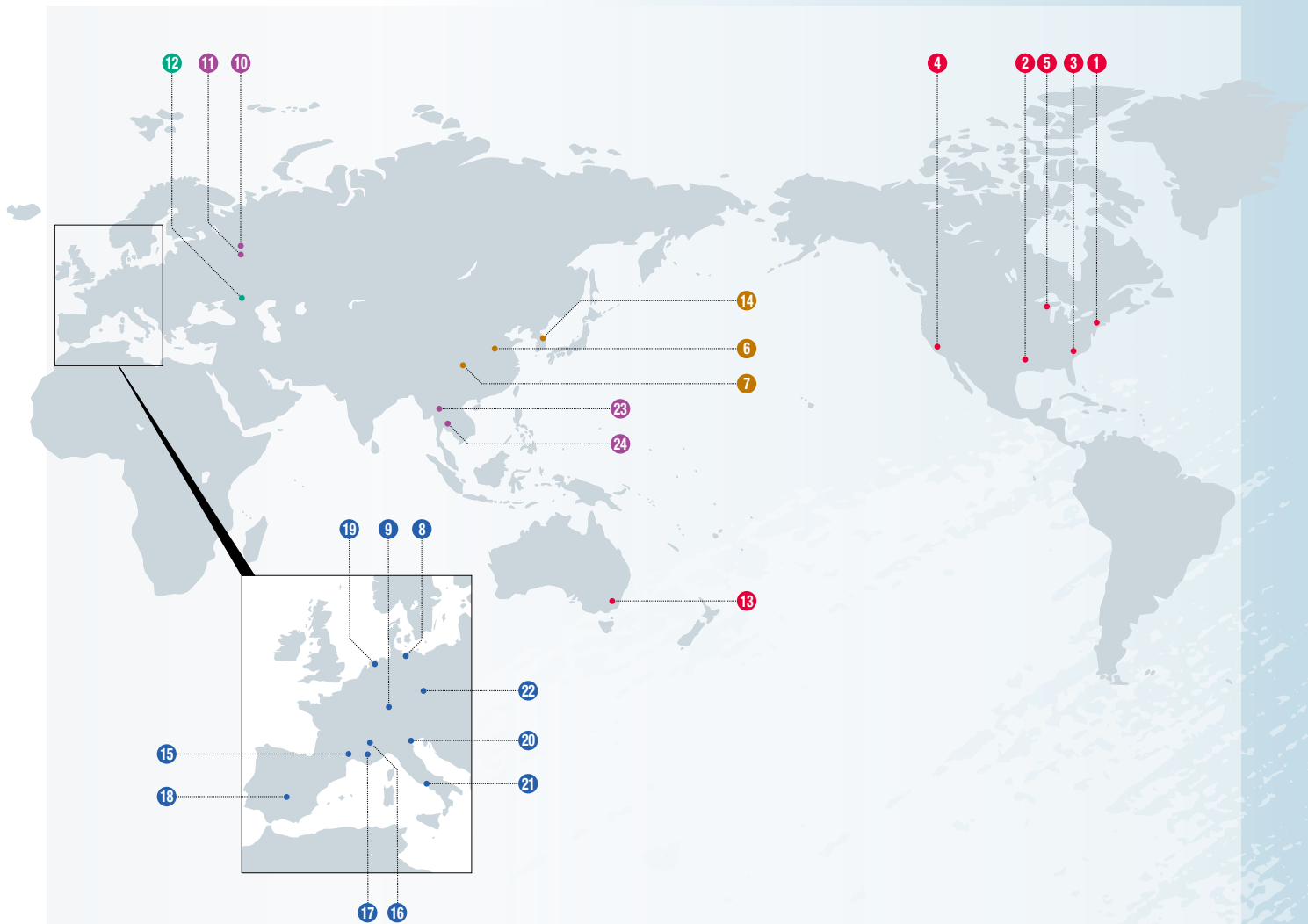
Many research activities in NIFS are strongly related to the international collaborations with the institutes and universities in the world. These collaborations are carried out in various frameworks, such as 1) coordination with foreign institutes, 2) bilateral coordination with intergovernmental agreements, and 3) multilateral coordination under International Energy Agency (IEA).

The coordination with foreign institutes are important as the basis of collaborative research. From 1991, NIFS concluded 22 coordination until FY2015. In FY2016, 3 coordination were concluded between NIFS and Chiang Mai University, Thailand Institute of Nuclear Technology (TINT), and University of Wisconsin Madison, respectively. Furthermore, two additional agreements under the coordination between NIFS and IPP were concluded, to conduct systematic collaborative research in LHD and W7-X, and to develop high temperature superconducting coils for basic experiment in Greifswald.

NIFS is the representative institute for the three bilateral coordination with intergovernmental agreements (J-US, J-Korea, and J-China), and for the four multilateral coordination under IEA (Plasma Wall Interactions (PWI), Stellarator-Heliotron concept, Spherical Tori, and Steady State Operation). For the bilateral coordination, and the multilateral coordination, PWI Technology Collaboration Program (TCP), NIFS coordinate the collaborative research not only for NIFS researchers, but also researchers in universities. The activities of the bilateral and multilateral coordination activities are reported in the following subsections, respectively.

In 2016, the 26th IAEA Fusion Energy Conference was held on 17-22 October in Kyoto, and NIFS hosted the conference. 1,100 researchers participated from all over the world. The IAEA highly appreciated NIFS for the operation of the conference.

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