

# 14. Division of External Affairs

The Division of External Affairs, as a core organization responsible for public relations and outreach activities, promotes “dialogue” with society, including the local area, through a variety of activities. The organization underwent a review in 2019 and consists of five offices: the Society Cooperation Office, the Content Production Office, the Event Planning Office, the Public Relations and Tour Guide Office, and the Outreach Promotion Office. A summary of the offices is depicted in Fig. 1. Many NIFS staff are active as members of the department. Its main activities are : holding online tours of the facilities (Fig. 2), providing on-site tours of NIFS facilities (Fig. 3), and science classroom activities (Fig. 4). Face-to-face activities have been limited due to COVID-19, but new activities online have been initiated.



Fig. 1 Organization chart of Division of External Affairs

Activities held in 2022 include the following.

- Tours of NIFS facilities (any time) held 288 times; 2,177 people participated
- Open academic lectures and tours of the facilities for the public, held online
- Science classroom activities, held 19 times
- Release of information through web pages, mailing lists, and SNS (X and Facebook)
- Publication of NIFS official pamphlet (in Japanese and English)
- Publication of public relations magazine: NIFS News (3 issues) (Fig. 5)
- Publication of public relations magazine: Letters from Helica-chan (4 issues)



Fig. 2 Online tours of the NIFS facilities



Fig. 3 Tour of the NIFS facilities



Fig. 4 Science classroom



Fig. 5 Public relations magazine: NIFS News