12. Public Relations Office

The Public Relations Office, as the core organization responsible for public relations and outreach activities, promotes the disclosure and sharing of research achievements with society, including the local community, through a variety of activities. Since the restructuring of this organization in FY2023, there now are four committees: the Scientific and Public Relations Committee, the Social Engagement Committee, the Archives Committee, and the Educational Collaboration Committee. A summary of the committees is depicted in the following illustration (Fig. 1).

Many NIFS staff are active as members of the office. Principal activities include issuing press releases (Fig. 2), publishing public relations magazines, holding scientific events (Fig. 3), providing tours of NIFS facilities (Fig. 4), scientific classroom activities (Fig. 5), organizing and storing historical materials related to fusion science research in Japan, and educational collaboration activities with high schools.

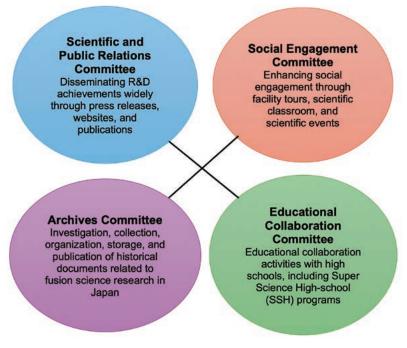


Fig. 1 Organization chart of Division of External Affairs

Activities held in 2023 include the following.

- Tours of NIFS facilities (any time) held 403 times; 3,033 people participated
- Science classroom activities, held 24 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 (4 issues)
- Publication of public relations magazine: Letters from Helica-chan (4 issues)



Fig. 2 Press release



Fig. 3 Scientific events in shopping malls, "Machikado (street corner) Science Lab"



Fig. 4 Tour of the NIFS facilities



Fig. 5 Scientific classroom