

《2022 Activity Achievements》

APU-NEXT is a research center that conducts international comparative research and analysis of small and medium-sized enterprises, such as Global Niche Top companies and family-owned European hidden champion companies, that operate internationally in specific fields, with the main focus on start-up ventures and SME business activities. In AY2022, the center concluded a research agreement with Technische Hochschule Mittelhessen (THM) for international comparative research and started joint research on the digital transformation of SMEs. In addition, the center conducted a preliminary needs survey of companies in Oita Prefecture for their overseas expansion, commissioned by Oita Prefectural Medical Robot & Device Industry Council, in the name of "AY2022 Eastern-Kyushu Medical Valley Overseas Sales Channel Development Support Survey (Oita Medical Related Equipment Overseas Sales Channel Development Support Survey)".

The center invited Mr. Sumiyoshi, President of Asahi Kasei Medical, a world-class company in the medical and nursing care industry, and Dr. Sankai, President and CEO of CYBERDYNE Inc. to hold a session at Asia Pacific Conference 2022. As a report on the research, the center gave a presentation at the East Kyushu Medical Valley Framework Promotion Conference, hosted by Oita Prefecture and the Oita Prefectural Medical Robot & Device Industry Council.