

Ice-Breaking Session/Reception

The **Ice-Breaking Session** will be held together with the reception at **Otaru**, a traditional Japanese izakaya restaurant, located on the downtown area of Morioka City, **on the B1 floor**. This session aims to help participants get to know each other and expand their networks. All participants will be invited to introduce themselves, share their research interests, hobbies, and favorite things, such as food. “Point” will be awarded after each introduction to someone you are meeting for the first time. The participant with the highest total points will be the winner and receive a special gift. **Don’t miss** this fun and valuable opportunity to meet new colleagues, make friends, and build your network on the very first day of the workshop!

Food and Culture Session/Banquet

The **Food and Culture Session** will be held together with the banquet at **Galaxy Hall**, located on the 11th floor of **Hotel Metropolitan Morioka New Wing**. In this session, participants will introduce the best aspects of their country’s food culture, festivals, and events through presentations. This session also aims to gather ideas for selecting future workshop venues. Local culture will be showcased through presentations, including **Sansa Odori** (a traditional local dance), **Wanko Soba** (a local noodle specialty), and **Japanese sake**, with delicious cuisine made from fresh ingredients of Iwate.

Closing Session for Connecting to the Future

The **Food and Culture Session** will be held together with the **Farewell Party** at **Sundance**, an international restaurant, located in the downtown area of Morioka City, across from Otaru, the reception venue. To strengthen friendships and networks among participants, they will be encouraged to register for the workshop’s social networking platform. This session will also include discussions on the **venue, format, and style of the next workshop**.