

The Nuclotron-based Ion Collider fAcility (NICA) is the flagship project of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna, Russia. The accelerator complex and the experimental setups are in advanced stages of realization, with first beams and data taking expected to take place in 2025.

The project includes a large accelerator complex and several megascience-class experimental facilities designed to study collisions of relativistic nuclei, as well as spin physics. The BM@N (Baryonic Matter at Nuclotron) experiment on a fixed target has already carried out several technological and one physical cycle of work using beams of various nuclei; a physical analysis of the accumulated data is currently being carried out. The NICA collider and the MPD (Multi-Purpose Detector) experimental facility are in the final stages of construction. It is expected that the first heavy ion beams at the collider and the first experimental results at the MPD facility will be obtained in 2025. The SPD (Spin Physics Detector) experiment at the NICA collider is under development and design. The construction of the canals for applied research within the ARIADNA project is nearing completion.

In accordance with the plan for international cooperation, the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR), Dubna, together with Satbayev University, Almaty, organize the **12th Collaboration Meeting of the BM@N Experiment at the NICA Facility** from 13 to 17 May 2024 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. On 17 May the **NICA Days 2024** will be held. The workshop aims to briefly review the status of the NICA project and to discuss the physics mission and the programs of the NICA experimental setups (BM@N, MPD and SPD experiments) as well as the applied research planned at the facility (project ARIADNA). The NICA Days workshop will serve to advertise the project with the goal to attract new collaborators from the scientific and engineering communities, young scientists and students in particular.

The NICA Days 2024 program has been published on the website <u>https://indico.jinr.ru/e/nica_days2024</u>. The language of the seminar is Russian and English. Registration is desirable to participate.