



SPEAKER: Vladimir Kekelidze

TITLE: **Challenges of the NICA project and the Multi-Purpose Detector**

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## ABSTRACT

The NICA (Nuclotron-based Ion Collider fAcility) project is under realization at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna, Moscow region. The main goal of the project is an experimental study of hot and dense strongly interacting matter in heavy ion collisions (up to Au) at center-of-mass energies up to 11 GeV per nucleon. The physics program will be performed by two experiments, BM@N (Baryonic Matter at Nuclotron) in beams extracted from the Nuclotron, and at MPD (Multi-Purpose Detector) at the NICA collider. This program covers a variety of phenomena in strongly interacting matter at the highest net baryonic density. The MPD will be installed at the first interaction point of the NICA collider. The major MPD sub-systems including a large superconducting solenoid, which are under construction, will be presented.