

# ★ ANSIPRA BULLETIN ★

Arctic Network for the Support of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Arctic (ANSIPRA)  
Сеть Арктических Организаций в Поддержку Коренных Народов Российского Севера

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ANSIPRA (formerly NNSIPRA) Bulletin is an information publication of the "Arctic Network for the Support of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Arctic". The Bulletin is issued twice a year. Additional issues are produced as new information warrants it. The Bulletin is edited in English and Russian. ANSIPRA Bulletin is available from the Internet. Registered network participants, as well as relevant state agencies and funding institutions, may order free printed copies. Printed copies of the Russian language edition are distributed to all registered network participants in Russia. All written contributions are appreciated.

ANSIPRA Bulletin is politically independent. A special part of the English language edition, however, presents translations of articles of the newsletter "Мир коренных народов" (Indigenous Peoples' World), the official periodical of RAIPON (Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North), selected by RAIPON.

**ANSIPRA (formerly NNSIPRA) is a communication network linking Russian Indigenous Peoples' Organisations (IPOs) with international institutions and organisations alarmed about the future of the indigenous peoples of the Russian North. ANSIPRA's main goal is to spread information, to mediate contacts, and to assist in project coordination and application for funding.**

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## Letter from the Secretariat

### Don't cut support!

The last years have seen a distinct increase in networking between indigenous peoples' organisations in Russia. Information centres are being established within the country, and legal centres have been focusing on teaching and improving indigenous peoples' rights. RAIPON is joining law projects and has gained an influence on relevant law proposals. Nonetheless, the average man, woman and child in the tundra or taiga has not yet seen much of a change. Degraded nature is not rehabilitated, food and medical services are still lacking, child mortality is increasing, and the huge problem of alcoholism is still there. There are a few exceptions, a few drops in the ocean, a few happier people, but they remain exceptions.

Improvements start at the top of the indigenous society and they will slowly approach the roots. And so it must be. Without building native institutions that can take care of indigenous issues, all efforts at lower

levels would mostly have short-term results and then go up in smoke.

There is some support from the federal and regional governments here and there, and some from abroad. The majority of the people have not received much help. They are aware that they need to take their future into their own hands. Many are willing, trying, fighting. Only few of them can do something, because there is not enough support. Aid programmes are cut – or have never been implemented, domestic and foreign ones.

Half of the earth's Arctic and Sub-Arctic belong to the Russian Federation. It takes time and money to rehabilitate half of the Arctic. One cannot expect radical changes within a few years.

*So, please, don't cut support programmes!  
Improve them! Make more of them!*

### Frequent misunderstandings in translations

Having struggled with translations of varying quality from English to Russian and vice versa for years, we have become aware of the different usage of a number of words in these languages. When reading translations, or articles written by non-native speakers, one should take into account that the meaning of these words may be misunderstood. Two important examples are explained here:

**Siberia:** In western countries, Siberia is often understood as the entire Asian part of the Russian Federation, stretching from the Urals to the Pacific Ocean. According to Russian usage, Siberia does not reach farther east than to the western boundary of Yakutiya. Yakutiya, Chukotka, Kamchatka, and the

Amur River and Pacific coastal regions are the "Far East" of the Russian Federation, not Siberia.

**Nation, national:** In English, these words mostly refer to states or state-like entities. In Russian, they refer to peoples or ethnic groups. In Russian, a "national enterprise", literally translated from "национальное предприятие", is an enterprise established by or for the members of an ethnic group, in contrast to a "state enterprise" or "federal enterprise". "National" in Russian usage related to indigenous peoples is equivalent to "tribal" or "native" when, for instance, referring to native Americans. Similar approaches, although at a larger scale, exist in North America when speaking of the Navajo Nation or the Na-Dene Nation.

### ANSIPRA News

Since the last issue of this Bulletin, with funding from the Barents Secretariat, we have established our Internet website (<http://www.npolar.no/ansipra>). The English language part was ready in December 2001, and the Russian language part in April 2002. It has been

updated and extended several times since. Lately, we posted on the ANSIPRA website a number of thematic maps, originally made for the International Northern Sea Route Programme in 1997.

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## Officially recognised indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation

During most of the Soviet era, 26 ethnic groups (marked \*) of the Russian North, Siberia and the Far East had the status of so-called “small-numbered native peoples”, a term more or less corresponding to *indigenous peoples*. Several other ethnic groups applied for this status during recent years. The following list performs the ethnic groups finally recognised by the decision of the Government of the Russian Federation № 255 of 24 March 2000.

AO: Autonomous Okrug; O: Oblast; R: Republic

Name of people	Administrative units of residence	Remarks
1. Aleuts*	Kamchatskaya Oblast, Koryakskiy AO	
2. Alyutors	Koryakskiy AO	formerly grouped with Koryaks
3. Chelkans	R Altay	newly recognised
4. Chukchi*	Chukotskiy AO, Koryakskiy AO, R Sakha	
5. Chulyms	Tomskaya O, Krasnoyarskiy Kray	newly recognised
6. Chuvans*	Chukotskiy AO, Magadanskaya O	
7. Dolgans*	Taymyrskiy AO, Krasnoyarskiy Kray, R Sakha	
8. Enets*	Taymyrskiy AO	
9. Eskimo*	Chukotskiy AO	
10. Evenks*	R Sakha, Evenkiyskiy AO, Krasnoyarskiy K., Khabarovskiy K., Amurskaya O, Sakhalinskaya O, R Buryatiya, Irkutskaya O, Chitinskaya O, Tomskaya O, Tyumenskaya O	
11. Evens*	R Sakha, Khabarovskiy Kray, Magadanskaya O, Chukotskiy AO, Koryakskiy AO, Kamchatskaya O	
12. Itelmens*	Koryakskiy AO, Kamchatskaya Oblast	
13. Kamchadals	Kamchatskaya O, Koryakskiy AO	not recognised 1927-2000
14. Kereks	Chukotskiy AO	formerly grouped with Koryaks
15. Kets*	Krasnoyarskiy Kray	
16. Khants*	Khanty-Mansiyskiy AO, Yamalo-Nenetskiy AO, Tyumenskaya O, Tomskaya O, R Komi	
17. Koryaks*	Koryakskiy AO, Kamchatskaya O, Chukotskiy AO, Magadanskaya O	
18. Kumandins	Altayskiy Kray, R Altay, Kemerovskaya O	newly recognised
19. Mansi*	Khanty-Mansiyskiy AO, Tyumenskaya O, Sverdlovskaya O, R Komi	
20. Nanais*	Khabarovskiy Kray, Primorskiy Kray, Sakhalinskaya O	
21. Negidals*	Khabarovskiy Kray	
22. Nenets*	Yamalo-Nenetskiy AO, Nenetskiy AO, Arkhangelskaya O, Taymyrskiy AO, Khanty-Mansiyskiy AO, R Komi	
23. Nganasans*	Taymyrskiy AO, Krasnoyarskiy Kray	
24. Nivkhi*	Khabarovskiy Kray, Sakhalinskaya O	
25. Orochi*	Khabarovskiy Kray	
26. Oroki*	Sakhalinskaya O	
27. Saami*	Murmanskaya O	
28. Selkups*	Yamalo-Nenetskiy AO, Tyumenskaya O, Tomskaya O, Krasnoyarskiy K.	
29. Shors	Kemerovskaya O, R Khakasiya, R Altay	newly recognised
30. Soyots	R Buryatiya	newly recognised
31. Taz	Primorskiy K.	newly recognised
32. Telengits	R Altay	newly recognised
33. Teleuts	Kemerovskaya O	newly recognised
34. Tofalar*	Irkutskaya O	
35. Tubalars	R Altay	newly recognised
36. Tuvinian-Todzhins	R Tyva	newly recognised
37. Udege*	Primorskiy Kray, Khabarovskiy Kray	
38. Ulchi*	Khabarovskiy Kray	
39. Veps	R Kareliya, Leningradskaya O	newly recognised
40. Yukagirs*	R Sakha, Magadanskaya O, Chukotskiy AO	

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*Unofficial translation*

### **FEDERAL TARGET PROGRAM: Economic and social development of the small indigenous peoples of the North up to the year 2011**

APPROVED

by Resolution No. 564 of the Government of the Russian Federation  
of 27 July 2001

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

##### **of the Federal Target Program on the Economic and Social Development of the Small Indigenous Peoples of the North up to the Year 2011**

Title of the Program	-The Federal Target Program on the Economic and Social Development of the Small Indigenous Peoples of the North up to the Year 2011
Authorization for the Program development	-Resolution No. 1099 of the Government of the Russian Federation of 13 September, 1996 on the Federal Target Program on the Economic and Social Development of the Small Indigenous Peoples of the North up to the Year 2000
Federal User of the Program	-Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation
Principle Author of the Program	-Research Center for Improving Economy Management of the Institute of Microeconomics, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation
Main Purposes of the Program	- To create conditions for sustainable development of the small indigenous peoples of the North by promoting their self-sufficiency based on a comprehensive development of their traditional economies, resources and livelihoods as well as by enhancing their spiritual, national and cultural advancement and raising their educational, occupational and health standards; -To restore the traditional economic lifestyle of the small indigenous peoples of the North and to comprehensively develop economic patterns in their lands, while preserving the environmental balance; -To ensure social rehabilitation and development of the cultural heritage of these peoples and to enhance their role in the economic and social processes; -To improve the quality of life of the small indigenous peoples of the North; to create a life-support system and social amenities to meet their basic needs; -To bolster investments and entrepreneurship, to restore trade, financial and economic ties and to integrate these peoples into the regional economy;
Main objectives of the Program	-To develop resources and technologies of the traditional economies and processing sectors, to insure transition to an innovative way of development; -To set up trade stations and to promote these forms of trade; -To ensure a transport accessibility of the lands and traditional use territories of the small indigenous peoples of the North, to develop modern environmentally sound transportation means; -To reduce the dependence on the outside fuel and oil products supplies by using alternative energy sources; -To raise educational and occupational standards of these peoples and to create employment opportunities; -To enhance hygiene and epidemiological health of the population; -To develop the finance and credit, investment and information infrastructures of the regions where the indigenous peoples live in; -To increase the revenues of the regional and local authorities and to use more efficiently their property for investment purposes; -To revise the mechanisms of state support to increase their effectiveness;
Duration and implementation, stages of the Program	-2002-2011 Stage I - 2002-2003 Stage II - 2004-2008 Stage III- 2009-2011

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List of the major activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-To promote reindeer herding, traditional economies, crafts and arts of the small indigenous peoples of the North; to ensure comprehensive processing of their traditional products and to preserve nature and resources of the lands of these peoples;</li><li>-To set up trade stations and to promote these forms of trade and exchange of goods; to develop a market infrastructure;</li><li>-To develop a social infrastructure, health care and social services;</li><li>-To ensure spiritual, national and cultural development; to improve education and to enhance the role of the small indigenous peoples in the economic and social processes;</li><li>-To ensure power supply of small indigenous peoples of the North and development of utilities</li></ul>
Major executing agencies	-Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation, other federal executive bodies concerned, governments of the entities of the Russian Federation, local authorities, associations of the small indigenous peoples of the North, the Union of Reindeer Herders of Russia and other organisations
Amounts and sources of funding and categories of expenditures	<p>-The total budget of the Program in 2002-2011 amounts to 2,744,320,000 rubles, of which Federal budget - 979,820,000 rubles, budgets of the entities of the Russian Federation - 1,366,560,000 rubles; extrabudgetary sources - 397,940,000 rubles.</p> <p>Where capital investments amount to 2,278,440,000 rubles; research and development - 10,540,000 rubles and other current expenditures - 455,330,000 rubles</p>
Expected results of the Program implementation	-Raising the standards of living of the small indigenous peoples of the North, creating new jobs and employment opportunities, raising the educational standards and professional skills, developing culture and international cooperation, enhancing competitiveness and augmenting local marketable output by developing traditional, associated and new industries, restoring natural resources, developing innovation potential, weakening resource dependence of the small indigenous peoples of the North in their territories, raising the revenues of the regional and local budgets, forming a market infrastructure, integrating into the regional economy
Supervising bodies	-Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation, Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation, governments of the entities of the Russian Federation and local authorities, other Federal executive bodies responsible for respective Program elements.

### 1. Problem description

The small indigenous peoples of the North (hereinafter referred to as the indigenous peoples) - are the peoples who are living in the traditional territories of their ancestors, maintain their traditional way of life, number less than 50, 000 people in Russia and identify themselves as separate ethnic communities (Federal Law on the Fundamentals of the State Regulation of Social and Economic Development of the North of the Russian Federation, Article 1, paragraph 6).

At present there are 30 indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation who total about 200 thousand people thus constituting less than 2 percent of the overall population of the North.

The indigenous peoples traditionally lead the nomadic, semi-nomadic or rural way of life (about 75 percent of this population live in the rural areas).

In 1950-1970s government support embraced actually all aspects of life of the indigenous peoples. During that period an economic foundation and a marketing system for the products of their traditional economies were created, 26

peoples had obtained their own alphabet, their education and culture were developing.

Yet, serious mistakes had been made at that time. The transition from the nomadic way of life to a settled pattern drastically changed their economic and social lifestyles, shattered the traditional system of children upbringing, transformed individual households into sovkhozes (state farms) and drove the indigenous peoples into bigger settlements.

The negative trends in the social-economic development of these peoples have significantly intensified with the transition of the country to market economy with their livelihoods being destroyed and their living standards seriously deteriorating.

In 1991-1995 the State program on the economic and cultural development of the indigenous peoples was adopted to improve their social and economic conditions. In the course of its implementation 4192 square meters of housing, hospitals to accommodate 407 patients, schools for 3,000 schoolchildren, 52 reindeer farms and other facilities were constructed. However, the program failed to reach its objectives because of inadequate financing.

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The program saw its continuation in the Federal Target Program on the economic and social development of the small indigenous peoples of the North up to the year 2000.

The preliminary results show that the implementation of the Program has hampered further deterioration of the economic and social conditions of the indigenous peoples.

At the same time the lack of budgetary funds has not permitted to fully implement all the measures provided for in the Program. Despite all efforts aimed at the economic development and amelioration of living standards of the indigenous peoples no major breakthrough has been achieved.

One of the most urgent economic problem is the development of traditional economies in the first place (reindeer herding, hunting and trapping, fishing, etc.), which have become noncompetitive in the market economy and experienced deep crisis. Due to the lack of modern processing facilities and high transportation costs a considerable part of their traditional products can not be delivered to the consumers or sold.

Once a very profitable economic activity, reindeer herding, has turned into a loss-making sector. The reindeer blood-stock has been almost completely destroyed while the reindeer numbers have decreased almost two times in comparison with 1990.

The solution to reindeer herding reinstatement lie in the restoration of the livestock, organisation of large scale processing and increase of meat production as well as in the use of raw antlers and ferment-endocrine products, which, when processed, will be used to produce bio-stimulators, biologically active substances and new medicines.

Sea mammals hunting is also caught in the crisis. At present it has declined dramatically. The major potential for increasing commercialization of sea mammals hunting (except for the cetaceans) is to process raw products to provide the indigenous peoples with food, to obtain valuable fat for medical and perfume industries and to organise the advanced processing of raw ferment-endocrine products.

Fur-breeding is also stagnating, which is due to considerable extent to the lack and soaring prices of feeds and low prices of pelts.

Trapping and hunting are also declining first of all because of the erosion of habitats, aggravating economic conditions, inadequate material motivation of the hunters and the poor organisation of hunting itself.

Over the last few years the catches of fish in the areas of the indigenous peoples have dropped almost two times, which is caused by violation of the fishing regulations and the absence of consumer markets. In particular, pollution of water bodies by industrial wastewater causes great damage to the fisheries. The quality of the fish leaves to be desired and fish products do not meet sales standards. At the same time many pieces of valuable fish rot before reaching the consumers. In this context it is imperative to modernize processing facilities and to introduce new freezing, vacuum and advanced fish processing technologies. The state of fishing boat fleet is extremely poor.

The industrial development of the North has disturbed the environmental balance in the lands of the indigenous peoples. Gas and oil fields have irreparably polluted the environment. Transportation means destroy vegetation cover and reduce reindeer pastures. The deterioration of environment reduces fish-stocks and sea creatures reserves and fur and sea animals populations. The fact that the monitoring of natural and land resources has been actually interrupted only aggravates the situation.

The crisis of traditional economies makes the social problems even more acute.

Recently the employment of the indigenous peoples has declined dramatically which resulted in lower living standards. Their money income is from 2 to 3 times lower than the average Russian level and from 25 to 30% lower than the average level of the regions they live in. Their pension is only 26% of the minimum subsistence level for the retired people in the respective territories of the Russian Federation. The load of breadwinners to support their families is constantly growing. The absolute majority of the indigenous peoples live below the poverty line.

Housing conditions and social services of the indigenous peoples are also deteriorating. Many families are actually homeless. The major part of the available housing stock is ramshackle and has no amenities. Of special relevance is the creation of normal living conditions along migration routes and construction of mobile dwellings for the indigenous peoples.

The health of the indigenous peoples is constantly deteriorating. Their average life span is extremely short. Only 8.5% of the indigenous peoples live up to the age of retirement. The incidence rates are 1.5 times higher than the average rates in Russia. There is a significant increase of cases of tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, skin and parasitic diseases. At the same time the number of doctors and medical staff in the territories of the indigenous peoples is decreasing. For every 10,000 people there are only 30 doctors and 11 primary care workers. The number of hospitals, in- and out-patient dispensaries is declining. There is a considerable lack of children's and maternity welfare clinics. Many health care facilities require capital repairs, a minimum drug supply and modern medical equipment. To find a way out of this situation it is necessary to set up efficient medical and sanitary-epidemiological services for the indigenous peoples through formation of expeditionary medical units and mobile well-equipped teams to locally prevent, diagnose and treat diseases.

The average level of general and vocational education of the indigenous peoples is decreasing too. Almost 48% of the indigenous population have only primary or incomplete secondary education, and 17% never went to school.

The existing network of educational establishments does not meet the educational needs of the indigenous peoples. Almost in all territories of the indigenous peoples the number of general schools is decreasing. The schools are understaffed, lack educational and methodological literature, home reading text-books, especially in their native languages, and modern educational aids. Of special importance is the study of native languages - only 50% of schoolchildren (in the Northern regions) learn them. The number of schools in critical state or those requiring capital repair has increased. The problem of smaller schools has not been resolved yet. The network of pre-school institutions has been also decreasing.

In some territories of the indigenous peoples no vocational establishment exist that would train professionals in the traditional economies and crafts. The problem of providing the indigenous peoples with opportunities for higher education needs further discussion.

The indigenous culture, traditions, customs and other aspects of cultural and spiritual life of the indigenous peoples continue to erode. The network of cultural and educational establishments including mobile ones is also decreasing. About 30% of clubs and 20% of libraries require capital repair while 10% are in critical state.

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The government support of the mass-media in the native languages of the indigenous peoples is urgently needed.

The aggravating problems of the indigenous peoples show that there is a need for reforming and adapting the mechanism of government support to the changing economic situation, identifying new approaches and priorities in solving these problems.

The concept of state support of the economic and social development of the North, approved by resolution No. 198 of the Government of the Russian Federation of March 7, 2000 provides for the creation of conditions for self-development and self-sufficiency of the indigenous peoples in their territories, including support for the traditional economies and crafts, promotion of their products in the consumer markets, organisation of a system of trade and barter at remote posts, a compensation for exploration of natural resources in the territories of their traditional economic activity, development of institutional forms of local self-government. The present Program has been developed on the basis of this concept.

### **2. The main purposes and objectives of the Program, the duration and stages of implementation**

1. The main purposes of the Program are to create conditions for the transition of the indigenous peoples to sustainable development on the self-sufficiency principle based on integrated development of traditional economies, their resources and livelihoods, spiritual and national and cultural development, higher educational standards, vocational skills and improved health.

2. The Program will be implemented in the following areas:

1) restoration of the traditional economic lifestyle of the indigenous peoples and integrated development of the economic structure in their territories while preserving the environmental balance;

2) social rehabilitation, national and cultural development and enhanced role of the indigenous peoples in the economic and social processes;

3) raising the living standards of the indigenous peoples, creation of a life support system and social services meeting their basic needs;

4) intensification of investment and entrepreneurial activities, restoration of trade, financial and economic ties as well as the integration into the regional economy.

3. The purposes in the first area are the following:

-developing resources and traditional economies such as reindeer herding, fishery, trapping and sea hunting and other activities;

-developing the processing of raw products and produce of the traditional economies;

-improving consumer qualities of the traditional products and increasing their production through technical and technological modernization of their traditional economies and processing facilities and their products;

-introducing new advanced processing technologies into traditional economies;

-reducing dependency of the territories of the indigenous peoples on the outside fuel and oil supplies by using local (nontraditional) sources of heat-and-power supply;

-supplying advanced transportation means to the territories of the indigenous peoples;

-replacing the outdated communications systems by equipping remote settlements and reindeer herding teams with mobile radio communications means.

4. The purposes in the second area are the following:

-social protection of the indigenous peoples, improving social benefits and guarantees system, including employment benefits, raising the level of education, providing (saling) houses, providing medical care;

-promoting the vocational guidance and psychological support of the indigenous peoples taking into account the ethnic, social and cultural peculiarities;

-increasing the vocational and labor mobility of the indigenous peoples, forming a training and retraining system for local personnel, promoting employment;

-creating new jobs, developing and supporting small businesses, farming, family and tribal and community forms of cooperation, improving land tenure regulations;

-preserving and developing the indigenous culture, traditions and customs;

-reviving ethnic and territorial or community self-government of the indigenous peoples;

-supporting interethnic and international movements and associations, organising mutually beneficial international cooperation and exchange of experience.

5. The purposes in the third area are the following:

-preparing and carrying out measures on the clinical examination and medical rehabilitation of the indigenous peoples, developing the public health system and improving the health care standards in their traditional territories;

-developing the social and public services, trade and catering, improving supplies of foodstuffs and basic necessities goods to the indigenous peoples;

-repairing and constructing stationary and mobile housing, and improving housing conditions;

-monitoring and preserving the environment, restoring the natural and biological resources and maintaining the environmental balance in the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples by sustainable use and conservation of lands, expansion of protected natural zones and reserves taking into account traditional nature management and economic activities of the peoples.

6. The purposes in the fourth areas are the following:

-restoring purchase and procurement as well as supply and trading systems in the territories of the indigenous peoples, developing trade at remote posts and exchange goods, creating markets for indigenous products, weakening dependency on foodstuffs supplies;

-carrying out institutional changes, developing the local financing, credit and investment infrastructure, creating a sound investment climate, reducing investment risks, establishing safeguards system;

-enhancing the role of the local authorities in the organisation of the investment process in the territories of the indigenous peoples.

7. The Program will be implemented in three stages:

Stage I - 2002-2003;

Stage II - 2004-2008;

Stage III- 2009-2011.

8. The first stage is of organisational and preparatory character aimed at the implementation of the priority activities and projects and provides for:

-taking urgent measures in the field of social and medical rehabilitation of the indigenous peoples, developing training and retraining system and employment opportunities for the indigenous peoples;



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-carrying out activities of a stabilizing significance to complete and put into operation (within the framework of the Federal Target Program "Economic and Social Development of the Small Indigenous Peoples of the North up to the Year 2000") unfinished facilities and production capacities;

-preparing the investment documentation and design estimates;

-forming a regulatory and legal framework, organising competitive selection and implementing efficient fast-payback projects contributing to the revival of the investment and entrepreneurial activity in the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples.

9. The second stage covers a medium-term period and provides for:

-creating institutional foundations of a modern market economy with a developed infrastructure in the territories of the indigenous peoples;

-launching the modernization, technical and technological re-equipment of the production facilities and traditional economies of the indigenous peoples;

-implementing viable projects to set up profitable production facilities of the local processing and associated industries based on raw products of the traditional economies;

-reconstituting and developing basic infrastructure projects by attracting private capital including a replacement of fishing boats, insuring transport accessibility of the indigenous territories and those of economic activity of the indigenous peoples, developing the local oil and gas processing facilities, switching to non-traditional sources of heat and power supply;

-implementing projects to repair, reconstruct or construct housing, social, cultural and educational amenities, implementing activities on environmental protection and nature management;

-carrying out highly profitable projects;

-promoting tourism.

The activities in the second stage are to be financed from the federal budget and budgets of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, domestic and foreign sources. Market forms of the state participation and support are planned for investment activity through credits, guarantees, leasing and concession agreements.

10. The third stage covers a long-term period and completes the transition to dynamic and sustainable economic and social development of the indigenous peoples based on the self-sufficiency principle, while providing for completion of projects to develop economic structures in their traditional territories paralleled by the accelerated development of new industries and services, especially in socially significant fields (education, health care, culture).

### 3. The system of the Program activities

The time frames of the Program activities are agreed upon with the executing agencies and the activities are inter-related and are planned to give a multifaceted economic and social effect. The amount and sources of financing of the Program activities are set forth in annex 1.

The Program is coordinated with other federal target programs dealing with the problems of the North. A number of projects of the Program are of a comprehensive nature. The list of comprehensive projects of the federal importance is set forth in annex 2.

The Program envisages the following Program activities:

1. Developing reindeer herding, traditional crafts and trades of the small indigenous peoples of the North, advanced processing of the indigenous products and preserving the nature and resources in the traditional territories of these peoples.

The activities of the section are aimed at the restoration and development of the traditional economies based on new production technologies and facilities for processing raw indigenous products as well as the creation of conditions for nature management and conservation indispensable for the traditional life style of the indigenous peoples.

The total cost of the activities amounts to 794,790,000,000 rubles.

The activities will be carried out in the following areas.

The first areas cover development of the material and resource base of the traditional economies. It is planned to carry out activities to develop commercial and bloodstock reindeer farms, to manage reindeer pastures, to take veterinary measures, to control predators, to control the reindeer populations, to increase calves' survival rate and reindeer protection, to apply fenced herding and thus to increase the number of the domestic reindeer to 2 million animals.

Construction of one thousand kilometers of fences enclosing reindeer pastures, 164 slaughter-suction stations for reindeer and other domestic animals, 600 intermediate stations for reindeer-herders, hunting, and fishing teams is provided for.

Increases in catch of fish and bag of sea mammals and other sea products under fixed quotas are planned. The repair and re-equipment of fishing boats, the acquisition of catcher boats of small size and other equipment are provided for.

Activities aimed at the development of fur breeding, restoration of the livestock and construction of new fur farms are planned. Measures to organise the storage of game fur and biotechnical and hunt management work are to be taken.

The second area embraces the development of the production capacities to process raw materials and traditional indigenous products. The program envisages the following:

-to construct processing facilities ensuring required advanced processing, the production and delivery of wholesale lots of final products to the retail outlets;

-to modernize old and construct technically and technologically new factories for advanced processing of raw materials to commercially output products that are competitive in the regional (inter-regional) and foreign markets;

-to create trading stations to promote the products of traditional handicrafts in the markets, including exports;

-to construct small capacity processing facilities, including shops to process reindeer meat, by-products, fish (including can seaming and smoking shops), sea hunting products, sea products and wild fruit;

-to put into operation facilities, processing raw antlers and ferment - endocrine products to be used in pharmacology and pharmaceuticals (to produce medical products), perfume industry or to be sold in the foreign markets or to organise production of dried herbs and extracts;

-to construct cold stores and to acquire refrigerating and freezing installations for more effective use of local raw products;

-to carry out activities aimed at the development of the associated and new processing capacities to process products of the traditional economies by constructing fur-skins

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and leather dressing shops, sewing workshops, arts and handicraft shops and workshops;

-to create conditions for the development of the feed mill industry, the production of consumer goods, and leather-shoe ware;

-to set up facilities for outputting products based on non-local raw materials (grain products) and bakery products and confectionery.

The third area embraces a package of measures to fully protect and restore northern ecosystems, to tighten environmental control over industrial enterprises in the traditional territories of indigenous people and of their traditional economies, to improve sanitary and environmental conditions and to clean up the territories of industrial and domestic wastes, to construct waste disposal plants, to create a system of nature protected areas, taking into consideration the environmental value of specific ecosystems and landscapes, to better the nature management, to preserve the environmental balance and natural resources in the indigenous territories.

2. to create trading stations and to promote trade and barter at the remote posts and to develop the market infrastructure:

The activities under this section are aimed at creating trading stations (enterprises of this type) in the territories of the indigenous peoples and of their economies and to recover the system of storage, purchase, delivery of and trade in foodstuff and consumer goods on their basis.

The implementation of the activities will require 389,860,000 rubles.

As part of the efforts the creation of 80 trade stations is planned based on the traditional economies and handicrafts, to ensure production, storage, processing and sales of the indigenous products.

Establishment of a network of trading stations is planned to purchase, store, and to raise nutritional standards of products derived from reindeer herding, to obtain by-products and processable raw products.

Measures are to be taken to accommodate and efficiently site the structural units of the trading stations (ranging from the network of posts, storage sites and supply points to main trading stations) and to provide them with the equipment and transport facilities.

During creation of the trading stations the use of material and technical base of the old storage and sales facilities and processing units for indigenous products, of trade, consumer's co-operation business and other organisations (storehouses, cold stores, facilities to process reindeer parts and handicraft products, etc.) is planned. Creation of an effective management mechanism for trading stations is also provided for.

3. The development of social infrastructure, health care system, and social services:

The activities in this section are aimed at ameliorating and improving the living conditions of the indigenous peoples by developing the social infrastructure and social services, and improving medical care.

The financial requirements for their implementation amount to 665,540,000,000 rubles.

The implementation of the activities will seek to reach two objectives.

The first objective is to develop a health care system in the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples and to improve medical service.

Construction of hospitals and more than 140 ambulance and medical attendant's and obstetric stations to accommo-

date over 2.8 thousand patients, to provide them with modern diagnostics and medical treatment equipment and medicines.

Formation of 50 mobile medical teams, as well as airborne medical, ambulance and sanitary-hygienic services is envisaged to render timely medical aid in remote communities, to reindeer herders, hunters, fishers, to carry out preventive examinations and epidemiological checkups.

The second objective is to improve housing conditions and utilities of the indigenous peoples.

A package of measures is planned to repair and renovate the housing stock, to build new houses, including mobile dwellings for the nomadic part of the population, to improve amenities of the houses, i.e. water-, gas and electro-supply, sewerage system, central heating and other conveniences.

About 300,000 square meters of living space is to be repaired; construction of first-class modern housing totaling over 1,400,000 square meters and 3,000 mobile compact dwellings for the nomadic part of the population is envisioned.

To improve housing amenities the construction of 100 kilometers of water supply and 200 kilometers of drainage systems, gasification and water heating of more than 2,000 houses, apartments and community centers are planned.

Construction of small-size bakeries, bath-houses and social services and retail outlets is envisaged in the settlements and trading stations.

4. The spiritual and cultural development, the improvement of educational system and enhancement of the role of the small indigenous peoples of the North in economic and social processes.

The activities in this section provide for social and legal protection of the indigenous peoples and the development of their self-government, creation of conditions for the development of education, indigenous culture, traditions, language and customs, an active participation of these peoples in the solution of the economic and social problems, including those at the international level.

The amount of financing of the activities reaches 318,580,000 rubles.

The first area covers social rehabilitation of the indigenous peoples and their legal protection and the development of indigenous self-government.

Implementation of a package of measures in the area of social assistance to the indigenous peoples is envisaged to adapt the system of social benefits, guarantees and compensations to these peoples to the new economic conditions and rendering social assistance to socially disadvantaged families.

Measures are provided for to create conditions for the activities of the indigenous peoples associations, as well as indigenous-cultural societies.

The legal and normative fundamentals which regulate the development of local self-government, the forms and status of these bodies, the introduction of quotas for the indigenous peoples in representative government bodies at various levels are to be improved.

The implementation of international projects and programs, including the creation of International House of Friendship, Culture and Business of the Small Indigenous Peoples of the North, support of regional programs on the development of international cooperation and activities covering exchange of specialists, promotion of tourism, etc. are planned.

The second area relates to higher level of education and vocational training and employment opportunities of the indigenous peoples.

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Renovation and construction of schools accommodating 18,400 schoolchildren and preschool establishments to take care of 8,800 children are provided for. Creation of nomadic schools and classes (eight-year and primary schools in small communities, primary schools for few pupils in new-founded trading stations and reinstated settlements (communities), nomadic classes, family schools in the tundra on the basis of boarding schools) are planned. The application of non-traditional forms of teaching children of nomadic population (summer examinations, external studies, individual and home training) is to be provided for.

Foundation of economic lyceums, financial and economic colleges, regional and inter-regional business schools with in-depth teaching of the fundamentals of market economy and new applied disciplines, schools of indigenous handicrafts and arts, sports schools is envisaged.

Measures are to be taken to work out alphabets for the four indigenous peoples (the Orochons, the Orokos, the Nganasans and the Enets), who still have no their written language to provide educational institutions with new generation textbooks, including those on the Russian language, while taking into consideration the language specificity, with training aids and transport.

To train specialists in the system of vocational and specialized secondary education, expansion of the system of specialized secondary educational institutions and vocational schools oriented towards traditional economies is provided for. Creation of colleges to teach professionals in non-traditional sectors (mineral resources and raw materials, energy, hydrometeorology, transport, tourism) is planned on the basis of specialized secondary educational institutions and vocational schools.

To offer broader opportunities to the indigenous peoples to study higher education institutions, the Program provides for establishment of local affiliates of educational institutions based on the existing educational institutions in the North, as well as special quotas in higher educational institutions of the Russian Federation to prepare professionals from among the indigenous peoples.

The Program envisages a set of measures to create an employment promotion, professional training and retraining of indigenous professionals and a job creation system. It is planned to set up special centers for training, retraining and advanced training of the indigenous professionals. The Program provides for creation of employment promotion services aimed at professional orientation and professional training of the indigenous peoples.

The third objective of the Program concerns the promotion of the indigenous culture, education and mass media. It is planned to intensify publishing activity in the field of education (publishing of books and textbooks written in the native languages, native folklore collections, anthologies of the history of those peoples etc.).

The Program provides for the development of a library network, increase in libraries' book stocks replenished with printed materials in the languages of the indigenous peoples, creation of archives and indigenous folklore foundations, national museums and museum complexes, creation of ethnic and ethnographic cultural centers and affiliates, as well as construction of new cultural centers that are to accommodate over 14 thousand people.

It is planned to organize culture festivals, festive events for reindeer herders and hunters, traditional sports competitions, and promotion of indigenous artistic performances of the indigenous peoples.

The Program envisages creation of 14 local television and radio stations and broadcasting of regular television and radio programs in the languages of the indigenous peoples.

The Program provides for a set of measures to promote and develop tourism in the territories of the indigenous peoples and of their traditional economies, especially in its most promising forms.

5. Energy supply to support the vital activities of the small indigenous peoples of the North and development of the communications.

The activities under this section provide for a guaranteed and continuous heat and energy supply to support traditional economies, social housing and community services of the indigenous peoples by efficiently using the local energy resources, developing local environmentally sound transportation means and modern communications and telecommunication systems.

The estimated financial requirements to implement these activities amount to 223,620,000,000 rubles.

The first objective is to re-orientate the energy supply system in the indigenous territories towards the local energy resources.

Construction of 3,000 km of power lines and several module diesel power units is planned; the decentralized sector of heat supply and diesel power units is to be reconstructed, autonomous power supply systems are to be installed in 2,000 houses, as well as purchase and installation of 10 small-size power units for trading stations, reindeer herding and fishing teams are envisaged.

The Program provides for a set of measures to use non-traditional energy resources, wind-power plants, including mobile units and geothermal installations. Promotion of local production of oil and gas products of small-tonnage modular installations for processing of hydrocarbons, extracted from small and indicated oilfields in the territories of the indigenous peoples.

The Program provides for supplies of oil products via trade outlets of the major oil companies, application of a concession mechanism to the development of oil and gas fields based on the clause of oil products supplies.

The second objective is a comprehensive development of the local transport system.

The Program includes measures to increase efficiency of the transport patterns and to reduce the mileage of goods-movement routes.

It is planned to construct roads between remote settlements and to link the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples to the rail-road, junctions and sea or river ports.

Plans have been worked out to purchase small-size river ships and light aircraft, to construct or reconstruct take-off and landing strips for small aircraft.

It is also planned to expand the stock of all-terrain vehicles, trucks, personal vehicles (snowmobiles).

The third objective is to develop modern communication facilities.

Activities are planned to develop telephone network and to equip rural communities with telephones, including some measures to establish communications between reindeer herders and hunting teams and to promote radio and television broadcasting by using limited - range transmitters.

It is planned to integrate the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples into the regional, federal and international communications systems.

#### 4. Financial support of the Program

The cost of the Program amounts to 2,744,320,000,000 rubles, of which 979,820,000,000 rubles (35.7%) are to be allocated from the federal budget, 1,366,560,000,000 rubles (49.8%) - from the budgets of the entities of the Russian Federation and 397,940, 000,000 rubles (14.5%) from extra budgetary sources.

"Capital investment" item will prevail in the expenditure structure and will amount to 86.53%, while expenditures for research and development and other current expenditures constitute 0.5% and 13% respectively.

The implementation of the Program makes provision for a gradual decrease of the federal appropriations by increasing the allocations of the budgets of the entities of the Russian Federation, local budgets and extra budgetary sources.

The implementation of the proposed financing strategy is to be assured primarily by the accumulation and redistribution of the profit deductions of the companies active in the development of natural, mineral and energy resources in the territories of the indigenous peoples and of their traditional economies, as well as taxes, rental payments and charges or compensations and indemnities for the damage caused to the traditional nature management.

Attraction of investments from extra-budgetary sources is planned to implement projects with potentially high profit rate and a short pay-off period (on average 1-3.5 years), as well as to attract investors to participate in long-term profitable investment projects, based primarily on the project financing principles, or projects repaid with future profits and requiring no State guaranties.

The proposed forms of investment financing include extra-budgetary sources in accordance with Resolution No. 594 of the Government of the Russian Federation of June 26, 1995, "On the Implementation of the Federal Law "On the Procurements of Goods for Federal Public Needs" (lease, trust, lending, notes circulation, mortgage instruments and concession agreements). Particular attention will be attached to the attraction of foreign investments.

Russian and foreign investors will be granted the privileges and guarantees envisaged by the laws of the Russian Federation. The creation of information support system will be of great importance for the attraction of investors. This objective implies an advanced preparatory work in accordance with the international standards concerning investment projects, business plans and project estimates, as well as efforts to enhance awareness of would-be investors of the investment opportunities, to create and manage a database, to organise investment projects exhibitions and auctions, and to ensure connections with Internet.

The overall payback period of the Program, including the implementation of long-term capital-intensive projects, is 12.5-13 years. The amount of the financial support will be adjusted annually depending on the actual availability of the federal budgetary resources.

#### 5. The implementation mechanism of the Program

The implementation mechanism of the Program comprises a three-level structure and provides for various forms and methods of State regulation.

The implementation of the Program at the federal level includes management, coordination and control over the implementation of the Program, direct financing from the federal budget, preferential terms, creation of a favorable investment climate, formation of a State regulation mechanism to purchase products of the traditional economies, the

conclusion of agreements (contracts) with investors and the Program executing agencies, the development of normative acts, the scientific and legal support of the Program.

To ensure efficient management of the funds, allocated for the implementation of the Program, it is planned to enlist support of the federal authorities concerned.

At the level of the governments of the entities of the Russian Federation the Program provides for financing from the budgets of the entities of the Russian Federation, tax and tariff exemptions as permitted by the local legislation, the conclusion of contracts for the exploration and development of mineral resources in the indigenous peoples' territories, and of leasing agreements, harmonization of the title list of construction sites, projects and measures that are of importance for those peoples.

The local authorities shall take decisions on the financial issues of the Program that are within their competence, on the legal regulation of the lifestyle of the indigenous peoples, the operational control over the implementation of the activities and projects under the Program.

The responsibility for the full implementation of the Program within its timetable and effective purpose-oriented usage of the allocated funds, lies with the State user or the Ministry of Federal and National Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation.

#### *The scheme of the Program financing*

The annual formulation of the objectives and activities of the Program and the conclusion of the state contracts (agreements) are based either on a budgetary request submitted by the governments of the entities of the Russian Federation to the Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation (as agreed upon with the regional associations of the indigenous peoples), backed up by a list of construction sites and other measures, or on a request for implementing an investment project accompanied by respective feasibility studies, estimates and calculations.

After the approval of the regular federal budget the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation authorizes annual allocations for the implementation of the Program, which are then allocated according to the budgetary requests of the entities of the Russian Federation, the budgetary classification, the allocation procedure for the implementation of the Program, worked out by the Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation.

In case of inadequate budgetary allocations the precedence of the activities to be financed and the financial performance of the previous allocations are to be taken into account. Priority is to be given to the facilities under completion and the facilities assuring employment of the indigenous peoples.

The annual adjustment of the approved budgetary allocations and the objectives of the Program, is to be undertaken based on the appropriate feasibility studies, estimates and calculations within the aggregate amount of the budgetary appropriations as approved by the federal Law on the federal budget for the current financial year with an additional mandatory agreement to the contract being concluded. The preparation of the documents required for the adjustment is entrusted with an executing of the agency of the Program.

The Program activities shall be implemented through state contracts (agreements), concluded by the Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation with the governments

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of the entities of the Russian Federation and organisations. The Program executing agencies are selected on a competitive basis.

The logistic support is to be ensured through the federal contract system based on state contracts (agreements) as provided for by the Procedures of purchases and deliveries of goods for the federal needs, as well as on a wider use of financial leasing and direct capital investments aimed at modernizing equipment and creating new businesses and production lines.

A contract shall contain the financial obligations (the amount of financing) of the parties and defines the shares of all the financial sources (the federal budget, the budgets of the entities of the Russian Federation, extrabudgetary sources).

The governments of the entities of the Russian Federation and local authorities can use special regional (local) funds and other investment structures, supporting the Program and authorized to manage credit resources of the entities of the Russian Federation, their own and borrowed resources of the local authorities and extrabudgetary funds.

Trust funds and other investment structures supporting the Program can be engaged as partners to implement Program activities.

### ***The management of and control over the implementation of the Program***

The management of and control over the implementation of the Program shall be carried out by the Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation.

The Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation may delegate, on a contractual basis, some of its functions and responsibilities related to the management of and control over the implementation of the Program to the governments of the entities of the Russian Federation as provided for by the federal laws and other normative acts.

The Ministry of Federation and Nationalities Affairs, National and Migration Policy of the Russian Federation:

- coordinates the work of the executing agencies of the target programs ensures the fulfillments of its contractual obligations and controls the fulfillment of the obligations of other parties to the contracts;

- determines the modalities and participation of the Ministry's local units as Federal users with respect to the activities implemented in the respective entities of the Russian Federation and ensures the coordination with them in this sphere;

- collects reports from the executing agencies of the Program activities;

- analyzes the target programs support, prepares and submits the summary analytical information on their financing to the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation, the Auditing chamber of the Russian Federation, other supervising bodies.

To facilitate the control, analysis and assessment of the Program implementation a special monitoring system is to be established to ensure a comparative analysis of the practical results of its implementation, as well as the impact on the socio-economic development of the indigenous peoples.

According to the requirements concerning the development of the federal target programs the State Committee of the Russian Federation for Statistics reports every three months on the Program's implementation targets.

If necessary, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation together with the Min-

istry of Finance of the Russian Federation, other federal executive authorities concerned and the governments of the entities of the Russian Federation can carry out expert assessment of the Program implementation progress.

### ***The legal framework of the Program***

The present Program shall be implemented according to the federal laws, decrees of the President of the Russian Federation, resolutions of the Government of the Russian Federation, as well as the regional and local normative acts on the important problems of the socio-economic development of the indigenous peoples.

However, many issues of the development of and support for the indigenous peoples need further legal analysis.

In this respect, the Program includes activities aimed at improving the legal basis to regulate matters relating to the life-styles of the indigenous peoples. In particular, it is planned to work out normative acts to regulate the system of privileges and compensations of those peoples if their land tenure is infringed, including expropriation of traditional hunting lands because of mining, laying pipelines (oil and gas), hydrotechnical constructions and industrial facilities. Legal regulation is needed to set up a mechanism ensuring the rights of the indigenous peoples with respect to the exploitation of the natural resources in their traditional territories and areas of their traditional economies, as well as an effective system of individual social support and rehabilitation, improved forms of local government in the indigenous regions and reformed educational and medical systems.

## **6. The expected socio-economic and environmental results of the Program**

The Program implementation is to result in the reinstatement, upgrading or re-establishment, on the modern logistical and technological basis, of major assets, including over 65 thousand vacancies both in the traditional sector of the economy and new industries. Market relations will be promoted, the problem of adaptation of the indigenous peoples to the market economy will be solved.

The Program activities will contribute to:

- the expansion of the commercial production and higher competitiveness of the traditional economies and handicrafts as compared with the supplied products through innovations, environmentally sound production and a possibility of all year round deliveries at reduced transportation, storage and processing costs;

- the creation of preconditions for formation, by using their local resources, of an internal food and commodity market, for reduction of dependency on food and consumption goods deliveries of the North, for the development of new livelihoods in the traditional economies;

- better living and quality of life standards, improved health, reinstated life – support systems, revived indigenous traditions and culture, enhanced social role and indigenous identity, developed international and interethnic cooperation to jointly seek solutions to new economic, environmental and social problems.

The Program is to create the necessary conditions for well-balanced and sustainable development of the indigenous territories, to facilitate the elimination of the contradictions between the traditional economies and the industrial-development of the Northern territories, and the conservation of the environment.

The inventory to be made of the lands disturbed by industrial development of the traditional territories will allow to obtain additional resources by imposing penalties for

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environmental disturbances and to channel them into protection of the environment.

A wider use will be made of equipment leasing, and state orders for applied research and developments aimed at designing and introducing new equipment and up-to-date technologies (low waste and advanced processing of raw materials in the first place).

The results of the Program will be of significance not only for the development of the indigenous peoples and

their traditional territories, but also for the Northern regions and Russia as a whole and will intensify economic, trade and financial ties while reducing the dependency of the Northern territories on natural resources.

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## MEETINGS:

### Roundtable in Kemerovo

*N. M. Pechenina*

*Representative, Vice-President of the Committee on Agricultural and Economic Policy of Kemerovo Province*

The indigenous people living in Kemerovo Province are the Teleut and the Shor. The places which they populate densely are known for the intensive exploitation of coal and other useful minerals. There are no territories in our province which are set down for the traditional means of exploiting natural resources and the interests of indigenous peoples are not taken into account as far the exploitation of mineral wealth is concerned. In order to solve this problem, we lead open negotiations with the owners of the coal mining companies.

A roundtable discussion took place in July 2001 under the title: "Protecting the Interests of the Indigenous Minorities in the Areas Affected by Mining (realization and control of the Federal Law of 03.03.95, No. 27-F3 "On Mines" in the case of coal deposits)." This initiative was supported by the Committee on National and Environmental Policy of the Province Council of Peoples' Representatives; specialists from the Departments of Fuel and Energy; Coordination Council for Natural Resources and Mineral Wealth; Kemerovo Committee for Natural Resources; the Procurator's Office; the institutions of local autonomy; representatives of the Association of the Shor and Teleut Peoples, and the management of the mining companies. The preparations for the roundtable and the actual discussion took place under the supervision of Deputy Governor V. P. Mazikin.

At the roundtable discussion, representative N. M. Pechenina, Vice-President of the Committee on Agriculture and Economics of Kemerovo Province, spoke about the goals of this meeting. In her speech, she also noted some of the consequences of industrial activities, which included the shallowing of rivers, water drainage from wells and springs, shortage of fish, deforestation, a decrease in numbers of wild animals, as well as degradation of the land quality in agricultural areas and farmers' personal lots. As a consequence of

the above, it is impossible to engage in the traditional forms of economic production.

In his speech, E.A. Bekrenev, president of the Association of the Shor and Teleut Peoples, offered examples and proofs of the various ways in which the rights and legal interests of the Shor population have been infringed upon. Additionally, he noted that the areas set aside for industrial development were being distributed without any consideration for the interests of the indigenous peoples. The haying lands and sanctuaries are being destroyed; there is no compensation mechanism set in place, and no practice of attracting the indigenous population so that environmental studies could be conducted.

N. Porosenkov, president of the Teleut Association, noted that the proprietors of mining companies held their corporate interests above everything else, so they would not even spare the sanctuaries. He also pointed out that the international norms and federal laws concerning indigenous minorities were not respected.

A. Arbachakov, a representative of the indigenous minorities, expressed his concern about the state of the environment in the places inhabited by the Shor. He also mentioned that the areas of traditional economies were not set aside for the Shor people, and that the indigenous people themselves were not sufficiently active. He called upon the members of the Association to fulfill more fully the legally prescribed rights of the indigenous peoples.

V. Todyshev, director of the Teleut national enterprise "Bayat" pointed out that there was no constructive dialogue with the management of the "Batchatskiy" mine. The mine deprived the Bayat enterprise of some of its territories. The territories were replaced, yet 15 hectares were nonetheless left out of the exchange. Each year, the Teleut lands are being cut down. He suggested that the governing institutions appear as mediators between the management and representatives of indigenous minorities.

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Those speeches were followed by the statements from the indigenous representatives of Mezhdurechensk, Myskov, Tashtagol as well as Belov and Gurev districts.

It was comforting to note that all the participants in the roundtable discussion were highly active and willing to hear each other's opinions. The dialogue took place in a constructive manner. That was the first time that the government played the mediating role in partner dialogues. V.P. Degtyarev, president of the Kemerovo Committee for Natural Resources, suggested an environmental evaluation of the program for the economic development of the Kuznetsk Basin with the participation of the indigenous representatives. O.P. Andrahanova, deputy-director of the Office for the Affairs of National Minorities, suggested that the budget on all levels should incorporate the expenses geared towards solving the problems under discussion; that the mining companies and the associations of indigenous minorities should sign contracts regarding their cooperation; and that training seminars should be organised so that an environmental evaluation could be conducted.

The company managers, on the other hand, reported their timely tax payments, and feasible ways of helping the institutions of local autonomy regarding the fundamental provisions for the settlements. They agreed that the claims of the indigenous peoples were

just, and that the compensation mechanisms should be established.

The management of the "Mezhdureche" Mines thus made a deposit of 200000 rubles to the account of the Shor Association at the end of 2001. It also provided the coal supplies for the inhabitants of one settlement.

As a practical conclusion of the roundtable, the Association of the Shor People and the Kemerovo Province Committee for Natural Resources signed a contract regarding their cooperation.

Representative N. M. Pechenina lead the talks with the representatives of the West Siberian Metallurgical Group (A.G. Smolianinov) regarding the cooperation agreement between the Group and the Shor Association. Consequently, the agreement was signed. At present, some of the program initiatives have already been realized: for instance, a computer course has been organised in the boarding school No. 3, in the city of Tashtagol. Additionally, funds have been transferred to the account of the Association of the Shor People to be used for purchasing sport equipment for the Tashtagol teams, for the renovation of the boarding school and scholarships for the students who need them, as well as for the publication of methodological literature and Shor language textbooks.

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## **RAIPON Youth conference Moscow, 14-17 February 2002**

*TGK Consult, Copenhagen, March 12, 2002*

The RAIPON Youth Conference held in Moscow, February 14-17, 2002 had more than 120 participants, both from the regions, Moscow, St. Petersburg and from abroad. The conference had a very intensive programme, ranging from discussions on youth and indigenous peoples in sustainable development, the Arctic Council-project "Future of Children and Youth of the Arctic" over education and information problems to practical decisions on the future work. Working relations with the secretariat of the University of the Arctic was established and the RAIPON youth chose an intern to go to Rovaniemi to work in order to improve the connections between the University and the Russian part of the Arctic. Only Western students have had benefit of the University of the Arctic so far. In the conference resolution the youth representatives pointed at the lack of access to information and the inequality - which is a result of that - as the most acute problem of the youth today. Darija Kudrjashova was chosen as co-ordinator of the RAIPON youth programme.

### **Introduction**

In September 2000, RAIPON and TGK Consult held a youth conference in Tomsk, Siberia with participants of all of the regional chapters of RAIPON. The conference had the goal to give "50 representatives of the young generation and overview of the environmental problems of the North" and to present "industry, local authorities and the press to the results of the Arctic Council-reports" and to "adopt a resolution on future actions and distribute it in Russia". Besides, courses in project management and LFA were carried out and a youth program adopted. A working group was formed to follow up on the resolution and the youth programs. During year 2001, local initiatives have been taken in Kemerovo, Nenetsky AO, Yakutia, Tomsk and Kamchatka. A broad program for the future youth activities has been compiled by the Vice-president for Youth Issues, Irina Shafrannik.

In Autumn 2001 RAIPON proposed to follow up with a conference, held in Moscow where co-operation with partners could be strengthened and resource persons for the future work could be pointed out

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### Methods

In December 2001, Darija Kudrjashova (RAIPON) and TGK Consult compiled a preliminary program with focus on preparations for the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development and the Arctic Council-project on Future and Children of the Arctic, and as well representatives for Russian NGOs, educational institutions, federal authorities and international NGOs were invited to participate and contribute to the conference. During January, different approaches were considered to reach priorities for the future work based on existing knowledge and the priorities of the youth that would be present at the conference. It was decided to work on three levels: 1) A plenary session with participation of RAIPON partners should give a presentation of the problems faced by indigenous youth and the work of RAIPON in Russia and abroad, 2)

group sessions should allow partners and youth to discuss possible further actions and 3) the conference should adopt a resolution and an questionnaire analysis of the main problems. Results of the questionnaire and the resolution are enclosed. Furthermore, the conference should have an education component with a course on methods to political and administrative leadership. A steering group consisting of five regional representatives was appointed. The participants list was adjusted according to the level of interest and practical possibilities to participate in the conference which allowed some budget changes covering participation by more than the planned 50 participants.

### Outputs

- 1) the Resolution
- 2) Analysis of questionnaire
- 3) Election results

### Resolution (translated from Russian)

#### **International youth conference "Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North: Present and Future"**

*We, the participants of the international youth conference "Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North: Present and Future", representing youth of the indigenous numerically small peoples of the North, Siberia and the far east of the Russian Federation, and indigenous youth of the Arctic region,*

*Taking into account, the document on youth and the document, prepared by indigenous people in the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations,*

*Noting the report and the work plan for 2000-2002 of the program "Future of Children and Youth of the Arctic", the Canadian Arctic Council initiative,*

*Supporting the principles of sustainable development in the Arctic,*

*Supporting the goals of this conference,*

*Noting the efforts made by non-governmental organisations,*

we state the fact that the main task facing youth today is to overcome the unequal access to information.

Today indigenous youth of the numerically small peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East only in 9 out of 34 regions have access to the information resources of the Internet, and in most cases only indigenous youth in living in towns have access to the Internet whereas the youth of the small communities lack every kind of information.

Taking into consideration all the difficulties connected with the limited access to information, we propose to create a youth network of the Russian Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, using

existing resources in the regions, resources at education institutions, in the offices of the regional branches of RAIPON, Internet-centres, and to search for additional funding for organising the network.

Planning future activities of the work with youth, we recognise the demand to strengthen the activities in the regions by holding conferences and seminars there.

*Welcoming the initiative of the University of the Arctic to sign co-operation agreements with the Russian association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, noting the international co-operation with the University of the Arctic and other organisations,*

*Making the first step by electing a youth representative, present at this conference for the office of the University of the Arctic in Rovaniemi, Finland,*

*Noting the need to overcome the language barrier,*

we express the need to carry out language and computer courses for representatives of the youth of the numerically small indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East with subsequent international internships and decide to give much attention to the education component of the program as it is its first priority.

Analysing the documents of the youth conference, held in September 2000, we recognise that the program adopted in Tomsk, as of today, has not been fully implemented, and we propose to create a youth section of RAIPON to make the work on the youth program of RAIPON simpler, and we also propose to elect a co-ordinator of the youth program of RAIPON and give the co-ordinator the right to appoint and dis-



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miss assistants based on a written explanation of the reasons for his/her decision.

On the basis of this resolution we give the coordinator the task to prepare a youth program for 2002

- 2005 and implement it within that period. In the implementation period of the program for 2002 - 2005 regular meetings and seminars should be held. The next youth conference should be held in 2005.

### **Analysis of questionnaire** (translated from Russian)

Distributed at the international youth conference "Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North: Present and Future" Moscow, February 14-17, 2002.

The participants of the conference were asked to choose the most acute problems for the youth of the Russian numerically small peoples at the present time, needing to be solved. 21 persons from 15 regions of Russia were interviewed (Amurskaya Oblast, Kamchatka, Kemerovo, Krasnoyarskiy Kray, Magadan-skaya Oblast, Nenetskiy AO, Primorskiy Kray, the Republic of Sakha (Yakutiya), Sakhalinskaya Oblast, Tomskaya Oblast, Khabarovskiy Kray, Khanty-Mansiyskiy AO, Chitinskaya Oblast, Chukotskiy AO, Yamalo-Nenetskiy AO).

*The questions were chosen from priorities of the document on youth of ECOSOC (E/CN.17/2000/PC.2/6/Add.2) and the youth program by Irina Shafrannik.*

1. Unsustainable consumption and way of life: 10 answers
2. HIV/AIDS: 11 answers
3. War, conflicts and security: 4 answers
4. Trade and strategy in the struggle against poverty: 10 answers
5. Climate change: 3 answers
6. Improvement of the professional level of leaders of the public organisations of the numerically small indigenous peoples: 14 answers
7. Creation of a united information network for the youth of the numerically small indigenous peoples: 18 answers
8. Creation of a basis for realisation of indigenous culture and improvement of the education level: 22 answers
9. Prevention of diseases and promotion of a healthy way of life: 17 answers
10. Other - the youth representatives from the different regions mentioned the following:
  - a) the lack of a spiritual basis leading to a loss of orientation and goals (Nenetskiy AO)
  - b) employment and self-realisation (Chitinskaya

- Oblast)
- c) preservation of language, traditions (Primorskiy Kray)
- d) creation of indigenous self-recognition, exchange of experience (Khabarovskiy Kray)
- e) alcohol and drug abuse (Nenetskiy AO)
- f) training in indigenous languages, employment after the training (Yamalo-Nenetskiy AO)
- g) drug abuse (Nenetskiy AO)
- h) land use, drug abuse (Khanty-Mansiyskiy AO)
- i) alcohol abuse and unemployment among youth, preservation of culture (Chukotka)
- j) protection and conservation of the territories of traditional occupations and land use from abuse (Khanty-Mansiyskiy AO)

The problem of drug addiction among youth was especially highlighted by five participants of the survey.

### **Discussion**

The goals of the conference were met, as the basis of a future youth program was identified. A detailed report by Dariya Kudryashova, commenting the speeches and round table sessions, is available in Russian. Minor organisational problems could not be avoided, but in general the conference was carried out as planned.

An important achievement of the conference was the establishment of working relations with the University of the Arctic. Universities in the Russian provinces could be strongly involved in a process that would help overcome the information and language gap, identified as one of the biggest obstacles for indigenous youth participation in solving common problems of the Arctic countries. This could also be used as a link between the Arctic Council initiatives, RAIPON and youth in the provinces.

### *Acknowledgements*

RAIPON is most thankful to Dancea for funding and participation at the conference.

## PROJECTS:

### Project:

### **Living conditions of the indigenous peoples in Arctic Russia**

*Kathrine Johnsen, UNEP/GRID-Arendal*

RAIPON, Saami Council and UNEP/GRID-Arendal are jointly implementing a project on the health, environment and living conditions of the indigenous peoples of Arctic Russia. The long-term goal is to include the rest of the circumpolar area in the project. The project's implementation started in early 2002 and, currently, UNEP and WHO are funding the activities. Results from the first phase of the project will be achieved by the beginning of August 2002.

The project is using questionnaires to collect information based on the indigenous peoples' premisses. Questions to be answered are selected by RAIPON according to defined needs. A group of ten representatives from ten regions have been trained to lead interviews. Each of the interviewers will return to their regions where they will carry out several interviews. More general information on health, environment and living conditions will be collected from all indigenous settlements in Arctic Russia.

The objectives of the project are:

- to enable local communities to express and report on their state of environment and living, including documentation of traditional land use;
- to train RAIPON in environmental reporting;

- to create a database of health, environment and living conditions in the indigenous settlements, based on indigenous knowledge and prepared by indigenous people;
- to identify geographical hotspots;
- to increase public awareness and understanding of the environment, health and living conditions of the indigenous peoples in Arctic Russia.

Results from the survey will be presented at the Arctic Parliamentary Meeting in Tromsø 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2002. This will include local and indigenous knowledge-based reports on health, environment and living conditions for indigenous peoples in Arctic Russia, photos and case studies (articles on the living conditions in particular settlements).

Later in 2002, the project will make more information available on the Internet, including an interactive map defining geographical hotspots. Further the project will produce posters and other educational material for distribution to local, regional and national authorities, public institutions, schools and communities giving information about the health, environment and living conditions for Russian Arctic indigenous peoples.

### Exchange programme:

### **Management of own land resources by the indigenous peoples of Russia, USA and Canada**

Pacific Environment will lead an international exchange on indigenous land rights and resource management from June 7-21, 2002. The exchange will bring a delegation of indigenous leaders from Siberia and the Russia Far East to visit Native American and Canadian First Nation communities managing their own land and resource base in Washington State and British Columbia.

Indigenous peoples on both sides of the Pacific Ocean are working to guarantee their right to participate in decisions impacting First Nations and their traditional territories. Additionally, some indigenous peoples have established their right to manage traditional territories and are making long term land use decisions.

The main goal of this visit will be to learn how indigenous people can become equal partners in man-

aging traditional lands. We will focus our attention on practical issues of land and resource management. We will also discuss positive experiences of indigenous peoples in developing effective partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organisations. We will touch on legal issues of indigenous land and resource management.

This exchange will give Russian indigenous groups the opportunity to meet with Native Americans and Canadian First Nations on their own tribal lands and to learn first-hand about the issues U.S. native groups are facing. We will talk with local indigenous communities about their life experiences, discuss self-determination initiatives, and learn about natural resource management programs, including examples of cooperative management with governmental and non-governmental bodies. A key issue for the exchange

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will be the long-term protection the land and resources, which indigenous peoples depend on for traditional nature use.

*For more information, please contact Pacific Environment Exchange Coordinator Sibyl Diver:*

[sdiver@pacificenvironment.org](mailto:sdiver@pacificenvironment.org)

Internet: <http://www.pacificenvironment.org>

### **Project:**

## **Persistent toxic substances, food security and indigenous peoples of the Russian North**

**A joint project between Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberian and Far-East of the Russian Federation (RAIPON), the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF)**

In 1998, AMAP, an international programme of the Arctic Council, presented an Assessment Report on Arctic pollution issues. This report described how persistent toxic substances (PTS) have a tendency to be transported to and accumulate in the Arctic region. The AMAP assessment also concluded that Arctic ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to exposure to PTS, and that certain Arctic indigenous communities in Greenland and Canada have some of the highest exposures to PTS of any populations on the Earth. This is the result of a number of factors, among which the cold Arctic climate, lipid-rich food chains, and lifestyle of indigenous peoples, in particular their reliance on traditional foods, all play an important role.

Preliminary studies have shown that the levels of PTS in the Russian Arctic environment can be significantly elevated. At the same time, as a result of recent economic changes in the country, consumption of traditional food by indigenous peoples in the Russian Arctic seems to be increasing. For these reasons, the Arctic Indigenous Peoples Organisations – Permanent participants of the Arctic Council, in collaboration with the AMAP Secretariat, have initiated with financial support of GEF implementation of the project “Persistent Toxic Substances, Food Security and Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North”.

### **Main objectives of the project are:**

- To assist indigenous peoples of the Russian North in developing appropriate remedial actions to reduce the health risks associated with contamination of their environment and traditional food sources;
- To enhance the position of the Russian Federation in international negotiations concerning measures to reduce the use of PTS, and empower indigenous peoples to participate actively and fully in these negotiations;
- To enable the Russian Federation to join existing international agreements concerning measures to reduce the use of PTS and to increase its involvement in the work of the Arctic Council to reduce emissions of PTS.

### **Anticipated outcomes of the project are:**

- Recommendations to Russian federal and local authorities, indigenous peoples and the wider international community on measures to reduce exposure of indigenous peoples to PTS, including identification of priority areas where actions are needed;
- Assessment of relative significance of aquatic and ground food chains as a pathway for exposure of indigenous peoples to PTS;
- Assessment of relative importance of local and distance sources, and the role of atmospheric and riverine transport of PTS.

### **Current geographical scope of project implementation:**

- Kola Peninsula (the region inhabited by the Saami people);
- Lower basin of the Pechora River (the region inhabited by the Nenets people);
- Taimyr Peninsula, including the lower reaches of the Yenisey River (areas inhabited by the Dolgan and Nenets peoples);
- Chukotka Peninsula (area inhabited by the Chukchi and Yupik peoples).

### **Project activities:**

- Assessment of local pollution sources in the vicinities of indigenous communities;
- Assessment of pollution from distant sources due to atmosphere and riverine transport to areas populated by indigenous peoples;
- Study of biomagnification in Arctic food chains;
- Dietary surveys of selected indigenous communities;
- Monitoring of PTS levels in humans;
- Assessment of the influence of pollution on the human health status of indigenous peoples, and development of recommendations to improve health status;
- Capacity building within the local authorities responsible for environmental pollution control and human health;
- Communication and dissemination of information.

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### **Funding:**

In addition to GEF funding, the project is financially supported by Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, USA, WMO, UNEP, Nordic Council of Ministers, University of Tromsø (Norway) and Salamander Foundation (Canada).

Significant voluntary contributions, covering provision of data and information and technical and logistic support, are made by Russian governmental bodies (Ministry of Health, Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring, and Ministry of Natural Resources) and a number of research institutions.

### **Presentation note:**

### **TGK Consult**

TGK Consult was established in 1999 and has carried out a number of ad-hoc jobs in project work, editing, translation, teaching and writing articles, but the main activity has been concentrated about a project portfolio concerning capacity building projects for indigenous peoples of Russia in co-operation with the organisation RAIPON. Through this work TGK Consult has established contacts with several organisations in Russia. The network covers not only Moscow, but the Nenets AO, Yamal, Evenkiya, Krasnoyarsk, Tomsk, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok and Kamchatka. Close co-operation with international organisations such as UNEP, WWF, IUCN, IWGIA and PERC has been a natural part of the project work. Among the components of the projects should be mentioned:

- 1) Establishment of a Project Centre in Moscow aiming at capacity building in project description, project management and fundraising. Courses in logical framework approach with regional participants, fact finding missions to the regions.
- 2) An Information Centre in Kamchatka with four regional centres. The Information Centre functions as a link to the central organisation and works for the indigenous peoples' legal and political rights in their "territories of traditional land use". Furthermore, a program on ecotourism as an alternative income source for the indigenous peoples is being developed.
- 3) Development of a small grants program for support of micro-initiatives such as traditional workshops on a private basis. A wood carving workshop, a sewing workroom and small scale tea production are examples of supported projects.
- 4) A youth conference on "Indigenous peoples versus industrial exploitation of the traditional lands". The conference brought together representatives from all of Russia in Tomsk, Siberia, where a resolution and a youth program with a set of rec-

### **Coordination:**

The project is coordinated by RAIPON and the AMAP Secretariat. The project is a part of the circumpolar assessment and monitoring activities concerning PTS impact on human health conducted by all Arctic countries within the framework of AMAP activities.

**Project implementation started in February 2001; and will be completed by the end of 2003.**

### **Contact information:**

**RAIPON:** Russia, 117415 Moscow, Prospect Vernadskogo 37, Bldg. 2, Office 527. Phone/fax: +7 095 930 4468, e-mail: [raipon@online.ru](mailto:raipon@online.ru)

**AMAP Secretariat:** Strømsveien 96, N-0032 Oslo, P.O.Box 8100 Dep., Norway. Phone: +47 2324 1630, fax: +47 2267 6706, e-mail: [amap@amap.no](mailto:amap@amap.no); Website: [www.amap.no](http://www.amap.no)

- ommendations for the future work were adopted. A follow-up was held in Moscow, February 2002.
- 5) A Model project to map the sacred sites of the indigenous peoples and their environmental significance in two regions, the Yamalo-Nenets and Koryak autonomous okrugs. The project is carried out in co-operation with the CAFF Secretariat under the Arctic Council.

### **A new project: Relations with Yasavey**

"Yasavey" is the name of the regional organisation of indigenous people in the Nenets Autonomous Okrug. About 6,500 Nenets live in the okrug that has less than 50,000 inhabitants. Yasavey is a branch of RAIPON. The newly elected president, Vladimir Peskov, works in the RAIPON Project Centre in Moscow as a project co-ordinator in a project component funded by Norway. Vlad Peskov and TGK Consult have co-operated since 1999.

The capital Naryan-Mar is situated in the middle of the NAO. The western part of the okrug is poor whereas the oil industry is expanding in the eastern part giving a new chance to some indigenous peoples to negotiate land rights. Yasavey lacks an overall policy for the development of the communities. The goal of this project is to enable Yasavey to work out a strategy and a work plan by teaching trainees at two seminars and on a fact finding next Summer.

An internship at the local radio and television will enable two trainees to use the radio and TV media as a tool. The project contains funding of equipment for subtitled programmes in Nenets. This project would support the efforts to strengthen the capacity building work in the regions and to promote sustainable development, drawing on capacity in the Moscow-based Project Centre. The tenth anniversary of the Rio Declaration this year is an opportunity to focus on the commitments made by the governments in Agenda

## PROJECTS

21. Indigenous peoples' access to the use of media is one of the key solutions to give indigenous people a voice in modern Russia.

fully, the new project will allow us to go into new regions. The first round will be announced during next summer if funding will be obtained as expected.

### **Future plans**

The work focusing on Moscow as a centre, Kamchatka and the Nenets AO will continue. There is a good chance that TGK Consult will be involved in a small grants programme covering 2002-2003. Hope-

### Contact:

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Phone: +45 33 32 32 65 or - 44 65, e-mail: [tgk@post.tele.dk](mailto:tgk@post.tele.dk)

### **Project proposal:**

## **Setting up commercial agricultural production of wild taiga berries based on the traditional subsistence practices of the indigenous peoples of the north**

### **Application for financial support**

*The author of this project proposal, F. Chekanov, addressed the ANSIPRA Secretariat with the request to publish the proposal in our Bulletin. The project has already been submitted to RITC (Russian Indigenous Training Center, Moscow). We hope that the project will find investors. A more complete version of the project proposal in Russian language can be obtained from the ANSIPRA Secretariat.*

**Applicant:** Fyodor Yurevich Chekanov

Mailing address: ul. Kalinina d. 34, kv. 10, 628012 Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

Phone: (home) +7 (34671) 2-19-29

**Contact person:** Anatoly Ivanovich Rayshev, Phone: +7 (34671) 9-20-13, 9-20-33

Application amount: US \$ 200,000

**Project author:** Fyodor Yurevich Chekanov

**Capacity:** individual

**Date:** 22 January 2002

This project is the intellectual property of its author. It is of commercial and confidential nature, and, as such, it is protected by law.

### **Keywords:**

Gathering, wild taiga berries, plantations, cultivation, berries, cranberries, red bilberries, agricultural technology, traditional economy

### **Project description:**

Due to their extensive production methods, traditional economies seem to be fundamentally non-competitive on the free-market.

From the point of view of the author of this project, the above-mentioned problem can be resolved by a limited introduction of modern intensive production methodologies into the traditional economies of the indigenous peoples of the North, so that they can become valuable participants in the commodity market. This has been the case with reindeer breeding in the Scandinavian countries over the past few decades.

This project proposes the establishment of an experimental farm for the commercial cultivation of wild taiga berries: cranberry, red bilberry etc. Its goal is to apply intensive agricultural methods to some of the traditional subsistence activities of the indigenous peoples of the North and, on this basis, to establish competitive agricultural production.

### **Proposed project results:**

Introduction of new kinds of high-yield berries, developing agricultural methods of cultivating plantations with taiga berries, and introducing them into the economy.

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### HISTORY AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE FIELD

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century taiga berries have become successful commercial agricultural products. For instance, the culture of bog whortleberry, which is widely known for its high yield and cost effectiveness, has been introduced to Canada. The plantations of this plant take up tens of thousands of hectares, their crop being up to 8-10 tons/hectare.

In Canada, the United States and Western European countries, there are now plantations with bilberries, cowberries etc. In Germany, the red bilberry plantations take up dozens of hectares. In the former Soviet Union, cranberry and bog whortleberry plantations have been established in Belarus (circa 100 hectares), the Ukraine, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. In Russia, there are cranberry plantations in the Novosibirskaya Oblast, the Khabarovskiy Kray and the Nizhegorodskiy and Ryazansk oblasts (5 hectares each); and another 5-hectare plantation is being set up in the Kostromskaya Oblast. In the Kostroma Forest Experimental Station there are listings for 7 officially registered high-crop kinds of Russian cranberry and three kinds of red bilberry.

One should also particularly emphasize the indicators which show that the artificial cultivation of taiga berries is economically much more cost effective than the traditional practice of gathering. In the United States machine harvesting of cranberry plantations results in the 8 hour labor productivity of 10,000 kilos.

Research has shown that there is a tight correlation between labor productivity and the fruiting of cranberries (correlation coefficient 0.88). One should also note that there is a 3-4 year periodicity in the crops of wild berries. In contrast, the cultivation of artificial plantations guarantees a stable yearly crop.

The adoption of the commercial cultivation of taiga berries, even if they are hand picked, would result in at least a tenfold increase in labor productivity and would guarantee a yearly crop.

### GOAL OF THE PROJECT

The project researches the possibilities of modernizing one of the traditional subsistence activities in the communities of the indigenous minorities of the North, namely berry picking (cranberry, red bilberry, bilberry, bog whortleberry, cloudberry etc.) The goal of this project is the introduction of modern plant-growing methods into the field of berry gathering, and the transformation of that field into an agricultural production.

#### Description of the farm, plantations and their financial needs

- Cranberry plantation: 1 hectare of land with a system of irrigation and drainage, capable of providing quick application and removal of excess water. Cost: approximately \$15,000.
- Cloudberry plantation: 1 hectare of land with a system of irrigation and drainage, capable of quickly supplying and removing excess water. Cost: approximately \$15,000.
- Red bilberry plantation: 10 hectares of land, cleared of trees and fertilized with peat. Cost: \$10,000.
- Bog whortleberry plantation: 1 hectare of land, cleared of trees and fertilized with peat. Cost: \$1,000.
- Bilberry plantation: 1 hectare of land, cleared of trees and fertilized with peat. Cost: \$1,000.
- Arctic bramble plantation: 1 hectare of land, cleared of trees and fertilized with peat. Cost: \$1,000.
- Stone bramble plantation: 1 hectare of land, cleared of trees and fertilized with peat. Cost: \$1,000.
- Overall size of the plantation: 16 hectares. Total setting up cost: \$44,000.

#### Equipment and technology

Farmstead: \$10,000.

Tractor and a set of agricultural tools: \$30,000.

This investment project is a pilot project which proposes the establishment of an experimental commercial farm for the industrial cultivation of wild taiga berries (cranberry, red bilberry, bilberry and others) with subsequent introduction of developed agricultural methods and other kinds of berries into the economy of indigenous communities of the North.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

1. Identifying and developing the appropriate methods for cultivating taiga berries on commercial plantations in the northern climate (so far, they have been grown only in temperate zones), taking into consideration the traditional economic structures in the communities of the indigenous minorities of the North;
2. creating and maintaining a group of clones and sorts of wild taiga berries;
3. developing high-yield varieties of berries for northern climate;
4. self-financing and profitability of production;
5. training representatives from the communities of the indigenous peoples of the North and introducing cultivation technologies into the indigenous economy.

### ORGANISATIONAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE PROJECT

The general idea of the project lies in the mutually beneficial combination of individual interest and the interest of the investor. The realization of the project is fully based on general investment principles: minimization of expenses and maximal profit for the investor. The potential risks of the project in terms of its production, marketing and financing will be fully borne by the author of the project.

The author of the project has a bachelor's degree in biology.

With the investment loan in the amount of \$200,000 (US), the experimental farm can cover approximately 15 hectares of plantations. After the 5-year period of plant growth and in the subsequent 5-10 years, the farm should reimburse the investor and subsequently earn around \$50,000 per year (see below). The general time framework for the realization of the project is 15-20 years. After the initial investment loan has been paid back by the farm, the farm will realize the investment project as a self-financing entity.

The author of the project proposes that the experimental farm be placed in the region of Kondin in the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug.

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Therefore, overall expenses for setting up the farm and plantation: \$84,000.

Cost of the yearly plantation upkeep at \$1,000 per hectare:  $16 \times \$1,000 = \$16,000$  per annum.

Cost of upkeep before the farm reaches its level of expected yields (4 years):  $\$16,000 \times 4 = \$64,000$ .

Therefore, the overall investment necessary for the time before the farm reaches expected yields:  $84,000 + 64,000 = \$148,000$ .

### Return scheme of the investment loan and plan for the transition to self-financing

The farm budget after the 5-year startup period, when plants become fruit-bearing.

5<sup>th</sup> year: plantation reaches the expected yield level

	Plantation size	Yield after the plantation reaches its expected yield level (5 <sup>th</sup> year) (tons)		Profit (US \$) (price for 1 ton: \$1,000)
Cranberry plantation	1 hectare	5 t		5,000
Cloudberry plantation	1 hectare	0.5 t		500
Red bilberry plantation	10 hectare	50 t (best case)		50,000
	10 hectare	30 t (worst case)		30,000
bog whortleberry plantation:	1 hectare	3 t		3,000
Bilberry plantation	1 hectare	3 t		3,000
Arctic bramble plantation:	1 hectare	0.5		500
Stone bramble plantation	1 hectare	0.5		500
Total:	Total size: 16 hectares	Total yield:		
		Best case scenario:	Worst case scenario:	
		62.5 tons	42.5 tons	
		Total profit:		
		62,500 \$	42,500 \$	

### Expenses in the 5<sup>th</sup> year (without taxes)

Plantation maintenance (including harvesting expenses): \$16,000

Investment loan reimbursements: \$20,000 per annum (\$200,000 over 10 years)

Other expenses: 10% - \$3,600

Total expenses: \$39,600

Earnings (without taxes)

in the worst case scenario: + \$ 2,900

in the best case scenario: + \$ 22,900

Cost price: \$0.63/kg berries (\$39,600 / \$62,500). After the no-interest loan has been fully reimbursed, the cost price will be \$0.31/kg berries (\$19,600 / \$62,500).

### Notes:

1. Assets for reducing expenditures are to be found in the expenditures for plantation maintenance.
2. As the production plan shows, the main source of income for the farm is the red bilberry plantation (10 out of 16 hectares) thanks to the relatively inexpensive nature of setting up the plantation, as well as the developed state of cultivation technologies, high yield and high preservation rates, and relatively high market value.
3. One can expect that selective breeding will result in the continual yearly increase in plantation yield rates up to 10 tons/hectare and above, which will also increase the farm earnings.

### ADDITIONAL SOURCES

1. Since September 2001, the author has been negotiating with the government of Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug regarding their financing of this project in the category of investment loans. In accordance with the latest negotiations, a decision has been reached to prepare the technical and economic foundation of the project at the expense of the district government and to announce the open competition for its development. Nonetheless,

should INRIPP-2 invest in this project, the principle agreement of the government will obviously turn into actual investment crediting.

2. Additional sources should also include the funding from the administration of the region of Kondin in Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug.

### CONCLUSION

The author sees this project as a way of transforming one of the traditional subsistence activities of the indigenous minorities of the North, namely the gathering of wild taiga berries. It can be applied to any northern region in the world.

### Note:

Due to a shortage of funds, the most important part of the application for the financial support of INRPP-2\* and the program of small economic grants, i.e. the project budget, is unfortunately only approximate. The standard business plan and technical and economic foundation of this investment project are also not fully developed. This kind of preparation requires separate funds. Should INRIP-2 agree to finance the development of these documents, they could be completed very soon. Other than that, the experimental farm which the author proposes has not yet been legally registered.

The author of this project hopes to receive the support and participation of INRIP-2 in this project.

\*INRIP: "Institution-Building for Northern Russia's Indigenous Peoples" (ICC/Canadian support programme)

## ORGANISATIONS:

### **Children's summer camp "Urikit"**

*M. Smirnova, President of AIPON "Arun", Evenki Autonomous Okrug, [evedy@inbox.ru](mailto:evedy@inbox.ru)*

The children's ethno-ecological summer camp project "Urikit" will be carried out in the Evenki Autonomous Okrug. The cost of the project is US\$ 30,627, which is donated by the national corporation "Yukos" presided by M.B. Khodorkovskiy. The project is accomplished through various sorts of support from state executive bodies of the Evenki A.O. (Governor B.N. Zolotarev and Vice Governor N.A. Kuleshova).

The goals of the summer camp are: 1) training of Evenki children which do not master their ethnic language in colloquial speech; 2) acquisition of skills in traditional subsistence; 3) introduction of individual talented children of the Evenki A.O. to arts and crafts (painting, song, decorative applications).

17 people work on this project. 15 out of this number are Evenki, which will contribute to the formation of an Evenki-speaking environment. All assist-

ing and technical personnel speak Evenki fluently. During the first session participants will listen to the Evenki language. The instructors, for instance, will play a family of reindeer herders with the help of genuine utensils, tools and a tent. They will train the children in traditional subsistence skills.

During the spring, the camp will be rigged, and necessary equipment and materials for working with the children will be prepared. Training programmes, methods and camp conditions will be worked out. During the following time (April-May) necessary constructions like mess, sauna and shop will be established.

Three camp sessions are planned: 5-30 June, 3-27 July, 1-25 August. There will be 20 children aged 10-14 years per session.

### **Aborigenka**

*Galina Valentinovna Popova, Chairman of OZhO MNS "Aborigenka"*

The public women's organisation of the indigenous people of the North in the Kamchatkan Oblast was founded in 1995 by the initiative of Valentina Nikolaevna Nikishina. Young women (Oksana Vychuzhanina, Nadezhda Chechulina, Marianna Yatty, Larisa Lazareva, Margarita Doroshenko, Valentina Buriboeva, Natalya Gamayunova, Varvara Kirichenko) supported her initiative and joined together to solve the problems of the indigenous population and its women in particular. The main issues of this organisation were carrying out the national celebration *Khololo*, and supporting needy and poor families.

At the present time, social environments of hard drinking are the most severe problems for the North-

erners. Some local indigenous people suffer from alcoholism as a result of ethnic degeneration. Therefore, in the spring of 2001, the public women's organisation *Aborigenka* assembled on the advice of elders to discuss the issuing of the book "Word to the Sensitive" by V.I. Zvyagin. This book deals with ways to achieve a lifestyle of sobriety.

Cooperation with V.I. Zvyagin certainly is the beginning of a very important step within the work of *Aborigenka*. The indigenous society is in need of convalescence and *Aborigenka* wishes to help these people.

### **Abstainers' Association of Chukotka**

*L. Vykyragtyrgyrgyna, President, Abstainers' Association of Chukotka*

The Abstainers' Association of Chukotka is a regional public organisation which was founded in response to the dangerously large-scale spread of alcoholism in the population. Almost every representative of the indigenous peoples of Chukotka can testify to the way in which a nation is degenerating as a consequence of

alcohol consumption. One of the main goals of our organisation is fighting alcoholism.

The main method of our anti-alcohol campaign is the Shichko method, which was established 10 years ago. It is an efficient and humane method of fighting alcoholism and tobacco dependency. The Shichko



method is based on self-analysis and self-initiative in the fight against the vices. Over the past few years, "small islands" of sobriety have been established in several villages thanks to the fact that socially active people, who have earned the respect and high esteem of their communities, "armed" themselves with the above mentioned method.

A group of indigenous activists, volunteers and teachers is actively pursuing their pedagogical and enlightening work in the region for a small fee. It was largely due to their initiative that our organisation, Abstainers' Association of Chukotka, was established. The idea of the founders was to connect all the abstainers and introduce a continuous, wide-ranged set of activities on a professional level. These people are ready to explain the truth about how abstinence has always been an essential need for our people, because only abstinence can contribute to the preservation and development of both our enterprises and our autochthonous culture. It can also help us regain our sense of dignity. Only abstainers can have valuable offspring and help their children succeed in the future.

The organisation's governing board, consisting of five people, has agreed upon a set of measures for the current year. The most important among these are:

- conducting workshops and seminars for the trainers of the Shichko method with specialists from Moscow and St. Petersburg;

- conducting pedagogical activities in the populated areas of Chukotka;
- providing methodological consultations and help to the course supervisors in the populated areas;
- developing textbooks and other methodological literature for anti-alcohol, anti-drugs and anti-smoking campaigns for families, schools and the youth;
- participating in conferences and seminars, both in Russia and abroad;
- organising and financing social aid programs for the participants in the anti-alcohol and anti-smoking campaigns;
- evaluating the results of the scientific and methodological activities in the given year.

If it is to accomplish all of its goals and tasks, the Abstainers' Association of Chukotka will need help and support from relevant organisations both in Russia and abroad. We shall be most grateful to those individuals and organisations who would be willing to sponsor our activities. Several hundreds of saved people, dozens of happy families: that will be the true victory to which you could contribute.

Contact:

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## FILM FESTIVALS:

### **Russian Festival of Anthropological Films "Salekhard-2002"**

*O. Syugney*

In 1998 the Festival of Anthropological Films Salekhard-98 was a success that caused a great number of responses in Russia and from abroad. In the September of 2000 the idea of a nomadic Northern film festival was developed and gained support at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Russian Festival of Anthropological Films in Salekhard, at the 1<sup>st</sup> Northern Research Forum (NRF) in Akureyri/Reykjavik, Iceland, in November 2000, and at the 4<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International of Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) in Quebec, Canada, in May 2001.

The city of Salekhard, standing out as one of the centres of anthropological film, has been pointed out to be the organiser of the Russian Festival on 2-8 September 2002. This festival will gather creative directors as well as professional and amateur cinema from various areas and various cultures. The Film Festival will not only cross geographical and linguistic borders, it also attempts to include a wide range of direc-

tors of documentary, fiction, anthropological, environmental and social-publicistic films. The goals of the festival are comparative demonstrations of the people and nature of the North, communications of unique cultural values, and artistic interpretations of the history and present of the colourful circumpolar world.

The festival programme includes anthropological film competitions, competitions of TV programmes on Arctic regions, cinema projects, press conferences, methodological seminars, a round-table of the Russian Association of Visual Anthropology, school cinema programmes, museum issues, and the Obdorsk Cinema Fair.

In the anthropological film competitions works of domestic producers portraying people in the context of their ethnic, cultural, religious, historical, social and natural environments will be represented. For preliminary selection film copies on VHS video cassettes and completed registration forms must be sent to the

## FILM FESTIVALS

organisers. The deadline for applications was 15 April 2002.

Organisers of the festival are the Administration of the Yamalo-Nenetskiy Autonomous Okrug, RAIPON, GTRK "Yamal", the Russian Association of Visual Anthropology, the Northern Research Forum (NRF), the Centre of Visual Anthropology MGU, and the Ethnographic Bureau (Yekaterinburg).

The following prizes will be distributed at the event: the Grand Prix of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Russian Festival of Anthropological Films (RFAF), the Jury Prize of the RFAF, the Prize of the Coordinating Council of International Nomadic Film Festivals, the Audience's

Choice Prize, and the Prize of the competition jury of the TV programmes of Arctic regions.

Information of the Festival can be obtained from the magazine *Severnoe Prostory*, NTV-Plus, "Tele-skop", the State Tele-Radio Company "Yamal", "Yamal-Region", and the newspaper *Krasnyy Sever*.

### Contact:

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## Traveling International Northern Film Festival (TINFF)

*The organisers are seeking:*

- 1) submissions and nominations of films from nations outside of the RF, to include in the TINFF.*
- 2) venues in the Arctic and Northern Nations to sponsor and show selections from the Traveling International Northern Film Festival.*
- 3) The organisers are also seeking support for translation and production of western films into Russian and of Russian language films into English. Anyone interested in volunteering their time to assist in organisation and planning for TINFF should contact us as well.*

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### **The Concept**

Films provide insight and understanding of differing cultural values, characteristics, and norms. Northern films (including documentary, fiction, anthropological and ecological films) demonstrate the many hues of the Circumpolar North today. They are used to facilitate cultural self-awareness, explore controversial issues, enhance cross-cultural communication, honor and preserve traditional knowledge and life ways, and increase self-respect as well as respect for cultural diversity. Film and video make it possible to cross ethnic, administrative and political borders and lead to intercultural and interethnic dialogue on the North.

The idea of a Traveling International Northern Film Festival (TINFF) arose at the 1<sup>st</sup> Northern Research Forum in Iceland in November 2000. TINFF envisions a migrating film/visual circuit that might follow the calendar of existing festivals and conferences first in Russia and then in the Nordic states, Greenland/Denmark, Canada, and the United States. TINFF will build on two previous Anthropological Film Festivals held in Salekhard, the capital of the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, in 1998 and 2000, as well as the third festival planned for September 2002.

*Traveling* — The festival will be held in conjunction with various Northern conferences and events, the dates of which will provide a schedule for the TINFF route (i.e. Russian Festival of Anthropological Films, Salekhard, biennale, September 2002, 2004, 2006).

*International* — The festival will migrate over North Eurasia and the New World presenting film programs at festivals, on TV-channels, and at cultural, scientific, and social events. TINFF expects to unite Northern films authors and audiences from different countries, regions, and cultures crossing linguistic and political borders.

*Northern* — Geographical priority does not exclude the TINFF traveling other parts of the world, but its main goal is to re-discover the wealthy realm of Northern peoples, cultures, and nature, thus the festival will travel to northern venues and to conferences and events focused on the North.

*Film Festival* — The festival steps across many borders and frontiers artificially separating various cinematographic genres; it aims to evolve into a Northern film caravan of the authors of documentary, staged, anthropological, and ecological films. TINFF aims to present and compare various approaches and interpretations of the cultural values of the North.

### **Prospective route for TINFF 2002**

- Films could be selected by organisers of other festivals, scientific conferences, and meetings to provide a northern visual-cultural component of those meetings while disseminating the best of the work presented at the Third RFAF in Salekhard. The proposers are also involved in the organisation of the first three forums listed below and have support from the organisers of these for the TINFF. In addition to this initial list, there are many other film fes-

tivals, meetings, and other fora to which the TINFF could migrate.

- Third Russian Anthropological Film Festival, Salekhard, 2-8 September 2002
- Northern Archaeological Congress, Khanty-Mansiysk, 9-14 September 2002
- Second Northern Research Forum, Great Novgorod, 18-21 September 2002
- Annual Russian Documentary Film Festival, Ekaterinburg, December 2002
- Irkutsk Ecological Film Festival

The "Route" of the film festivals does not preclude a variety of other TINFF projects. The aim of the TINFF is to encourage production and distribution of films about northern peoples and cultures of Russian North and Siberia and to develop a dialogue and exchange of video-films throughout the Circumpolar North. A print and web-based catalogue of films selected for the Salekhard 2002 festival would be prepared, the Third RFAF and TINFF will establish regular and virtual "Obdorsk Film Fair" (Obdorsk is the old name of Salekhard; until the 20<sup>th</sup> century the Obdorsk fair was famous in the Russian North). TINFF offers its programs and projects to TV-channels and conferences. Universities, museums, and other organisations could select and order films from the catalogue to compose their unique version of the TINFF. Additionally, TINFF is planning to enhance the international film circuit re-making versions of films in

different languages; for example, the best films from Siberia in different categories (e.g. ethnographic, documentary, ecological, native film-maker) should be awarded funding sufficient to produce the film for distribution in English. Submissions in English should be awarded funding to produce a Russian language version, thus making the highest quality films available in both English and Russian.

### **Prospective sponsors**

Initial funding for TINFF was received from the Ethnographic Bureau (Ekaterinburg, Russia) with support from State Agency "Yamal-Inform" (Salekhard, Russia). We anticipate inviting sponsorship of the Traveling Northern International Film Festival by private foundations, regional and city governments in host cities and regions, corporations and individuals. Museums, universities, schools and colleges, as well as non-profit organisations and even independent movie theaters would be invited to host the TINFF at their locations.

### Principal Organiser:

*Andrey V. Golovnev, doctor of anthropology, professor, filmmaker, winner of the Grand Prix, Russian Anthropological Film Festivals 1998 and 2000, senior researcher of the Institute of History and Archeology, director of the Ethnographic Bureau, Ekaterinburg, Russia ([Golovnev@basko.ru](mailto:Golovnev@basko.ru))*

## **ENVIRONMENT:**

### **Hungry Russian soldiers helped poach wild reindeer to extinction, scientist says**

*Reprint from: The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo), March 23, 2002*

**Vladivostok** – Poachers have wiped out wild reindeer in one of their habitats in Russia's Far East, a scientist said yesterday, and he said that the Russian military was mostly to blame.

"We haven't seen a single reindeer," said Vladimir Fil, one of the Ecology and Nature Use Institute scientists who inspected the northern end of the Kamchatka peninsula last week in a fourday helicopter expedition. "Anecdotal evidence is that there still are 30 to 40 specimens but these reindeer would be too few to survive (as a species)," Fil said. He said reindeer in the area numbered up to 5,000 before 1991.

Most of northern Kamchatka is occupied by Russia's Strategic Missile Forces, Fil said.

He said the reindeer population in that area began shrinking in the 1990s following the demise of the Soviet Union and a sharp decrease in Russia's military spending. Financial problems prompted local commanders to look for ways to supplement rations, he said.

"They took to shooting reindeer when soldiers went hungry," Fil said, adding that he often witnessed the poaching when he was based in the area a few years ago.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT:**Indigenous peoples of the Russian North***Winfried K. Dallmann, Norwegian Polar Institute, Tromsø*

“Rossiyskiy Sever”, the Russian North, extends across a distance of 6000 km from the Finnish and Norwegian boundary through the Urals and Siberia to the Bering Strait and the Pacific Ocean. It covers vast areas of *taiga* (boreal forests), *tundra* (treeless swamps and pasture lands), and polar deserts. The north-south extension of this belt widens from about 1000 km in Europe to about 3000 km in central Siberia and the Russian Far East.

Approximately 20 million people live in this land, mainly concentrated in towns and settlements along the rivers and in the industrial centres. Only about 180,000 of them belong to approximately 30 small-numbered, aboriginal groups – the indigenous peoples of the North. Their majority live in small villages close to their subsistence areas, where they pursue traditional occupations like reindeer-herding, hunting and fishing. But the reality these people face today is anything but an idyllic carryover from the past.

Since the colonisation of the North, large expanses have gradually been converted into areas for alien settlement, transportation routes, industry, forestry, mining and oil production, and have been devastated by pollution, irresponsibly managed oil and mineral prospecting, and military activity.

In tandem with the environmental disaster went the social decay of the indigenous societies since the early Soviet era, with collectivisation of subsistence activities, forced relocations, spiritual oppression, and destruction of traditional social patterns and values. The result was the well-known minority syndrome marked by loss of ethnic identity, unemployment, alcoholism, diseases, etc.

The recent socio-economic crises of Russia which came along with the transition to a market economy, has led to a break-down of most of the supply and transportation system in remote areas of the North. Having been incorporated into the alien Soviet economic system, made dependent on modern infrastructure and product distribution, the people now find themselves left alone without supplies, medical care, rising mortality, and the economic means and sufficient legal expertise to deal with the situation. The desperate road back to the old ways of life has tempted many, but is often hampered by the degradation or destruction of the natural environment.

Against this horrendous background, the cultural survival of these small ethnic groups may seem al-

most impossible. But they fight tenaciously, showing an unbelievable endurance, and their case has already won ground in many national and international fora.

**Ancient roots**

Like everywhere on earth, the Russian North has been subject to migration of peoples all through human history. Until ca. 2000 years ago, the North was dominated by ancient Siberian tribes whose cultural relations are poorly known. Pressure from the extension of southerly adjacent peoples gradually drove these tribes to the north, at the same time as they mingled with – and were partly assimilated into – the newcomers.

One group of descendants of these ancient Siberian tribes is comprised of the *Yupik* (eastern Eskimo branch) and *Aleuts*, who mostly migrated to Alaska and form a common culture group with other North American peoples. In Russia, less than 2000 Yupik live in villages at the Bering Strait, and some 700 Aleuts on the Komandorsk Islands and in Kamchatka.

The largest of the Proto-Siberian language groups is the Palaeo-Asiatic group, represented by the *Chukchi*, *Koryaks* and *Itelmens*. On the arrival of the Russians, these peoples inhabited most of Chukotka, Kamchatka and the areas around the northern Sea of Okhotsk. They are today concentrated to the Chukotkan and Koryak autonomous areas in the far north-east. With population numbers of 15,000 (Chukchi) and 9000 (Koryaks) these peoples belong to the larger ethnic groups. The Itelmens (2500) were once also wide-spread across Kamchatka. They are now restricted to a small land strip at the south-western coast. Large parts of their former population are mingled with Russian immigrants, speaking the Russian language, but have developed a distinctive local culture. These people call themselves *Kamchadals* and claim the official status of an indigenous people that they had lost in 1927. Their number is about 9000.

The *Yukagirs*, another Proto-Siberian group, once inhabited huge parts of north-eastern Siberia between the Lena mouth and the Bering Strait. The remaining 1000 people are mainly restricted to the Kolyma area in north-eastern Yakutia. The *Chuvans* (1300) at the upper Anadyr River are originally a Yukagir tribe that has adopted the Chukchi language, and assimilated partly into Chukchi, and partly into Russian culture.

Isolated linguistic remains of an ancient Siberian population are also represented by the *Nivkhi* (4600) at the Amur mouth and on northern Sakhalin, and the *Kets* (1100) of the middle Yenisey River valley.

### The Ural-Altaiian penetration

Central and Eastern Siberia experienced extensive immigration of Tungus and Turkic tribes in several pulses from the south, from 550 AD. They spoke Altaian languages. Turkic *Uigurs*, the first invaders, were later assimilated into Tungus peoples that appeared after 1000 AD and mixed with the autochthonous Yukagirs, Koryaks, and the Amur River population. The relatively large groups of the *Evenks* (30,000) and *Evens* (17,000), wide-spread in central and eastern Siberia and the Russian Far East, as well as a number of smaller groups in the Amur district and on Sakhalin (*Nanais*, *Udege*, *Orochi*, *Ulchi*, *Oroks* and *Negidals*) are the descendants of the Tungus penetration, which, however, also show older cultural elements.

The Turkic *Yakuts* did not arrive in present-day Yakutia earlier than about 1500 AD. They diluted the Yukagir, Even and Evenk populations. Having a large number, 380,000, and being the titular nation with an almost 40% portion of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), the Yakuts are not considered to be "indigenous". A northern, reindeer-breeding subgroup of the Yakuts, however, does not differ much culturally from the indigenous minorities of the area.

A fairly new ethnic group, the *Dolgans* (7000), developed during the following centuries from mainly Evenk, but also Yakut, various Samoyedic and Russian elements in southern Taymyr. They speak a Yakut dialect.

Western Siberia and the European North were gradually penetrated by tribes of the Uralian language branch, starting several thousand years ago. Linguistically, they are subdivided into a Finno-Ugric and a Samoyedic sub-branch.

The Finno-Ugric branch comprises the Finnic subgroup to which the *Saami* people in Scandinavia and on the Kola Peninsula belong, and the *Komi* to the west of the Urals. While only about 1800 Saami live on the Russian side of their residence area, the Komi (340,000) have a similar, non-indigenous status as described above for the Yakuts. Ugric languages are spoken by the *Khants* (22,000) and *Mansi* (8000) in the Ob River basin and the Yamal area east of the Urals.

Samoyedic groups probably have their origin in the Sayan area in south-western Siberia, from whence they gradually migrated to their present residence areas ca. 2000 years ago. They comprise the *Nenets* (34,000, the largest indigenous group) along the Arctic shore from the Kanin Peninsula to the Yenisey mouth, the *Nganasans* (1200) on northern Taymyr, and the *Enets* (200) and *Selkups* (3600) in the Yenisey River basin.

### Reindeer – a way of life

Despite the diverse historical, ethnic and linguistic background, the peoples of the North had to adopt quite similar subsistence cultures when they arrived in the Subarctic and Arctic regions.

However, distinct differences developed dependent on endemic fauna and climatic zones, sometimes within the same ethnic unity. Exchange of products between these cultural groups have been important throughout history. Due to collectivisation and forced relocation during the Soviet era, many of these differences have now vanished.

*Coastal cultures* have developed amongst peoples living in areas with significant sea mammals (walrus, whales, seals), particularly at the Pacific Ocean, the Sea of Okhotsk or the Bering Strait (Aleuts, Yupik, coastal Chukchi). Among other groups of the Far East, marine hunting forms part of the annual cycle, while their main occupation is inland (salmon) fishing, hunting or reindeer-herding.

*River cultures* occur especially in the Far East. Typical fishing peoples are the Nanai, Ulchi, and Udege in the Primorye area of the Far East, but also the Kets at the middle Yenisey River.

*Tundra* and *taiga cultures* occur throughout the Russian North. The basic traditional occupations are reindeer-herding, hunting and trapping, fresh-water fishing, and gathering. These peoples are traditionally nomads or semi-nomads. Since collectivisation during the Soviet era took place, most reindeer hunters and herders live in year-round settlements, though many still migrate seasonally with the herds.

*Reindeer-herding* is the fundamental, subsistence-related occupation of many Northern peoples. It is not necessarily the most typical native occupation, but the most characteristic one that still has economic significance. Furthermore, it is not just an economic occupation, but has developed into a way of life closely connected with ethnic identity. There are large-scale, extensive herding cultures like those of the Nenets, Khants, Chukchi and Koryaks, and small-scale breeding mainly for draught and riding animals as a subsidiary occupation for many taiga people. Reindeer-herding, however, is very sensitive to environmental changes. Modern development has created a severe threat to reindeer-herding and its related cultures.

Hunting of fur-bearing animals for other than domestic use, and later the development of fur farms, was initiated by the Russian colonisers for most ethnic groups. The tsarist governors demanded furs for *yasak* (a colonial tax). In addition, commercial interests in fur trading developed as a means of receiving trade goods from the Russians.

### Shamans and guardian spirits

The indigenous peoples of the North are traditionally animists. They believe that the sky, the earth, and the water are populated by various spirits which affect the

## HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT

lives of the humans. They produce images of these spirits in human or animal form, which play an important role in their rites. Sacrifices to the guardian spirits in the form of animals and other food products were common in the past.

Religious practices were carried out by the shamans who were mediators between the people and the spirits of the other worlds. Through contact with the spirits, the shaman healed sicknesses, predicted the future, and delivered the souls of the deceased to the world of the dead. Due to the intense persecution of shamans in the Soviet Union, they do not officially exist anymore.

Although many of the indigenous people officially converted to the Russian Orthodox church prior to the October Revolution, Christianity has never exerted a profound impact on the religious beliefs of the groups as a whole.

### **The conquest of the North**

The white man's conquest of the Russian North, Siberia and the Far East does not stand far behind the atrocities known from other parts of the world. The tsarist intention was to subject the entire northern part of Asia to its rule because of the expected rich natural resources. Peoples were rendered tribute-payers. They were forced to pay a tax, *yasak*, in exchange for the promise of protection by the Tsarist Empire. *Yasak* consisted mostly of furs. The often very high tax requirements changed the occupational pattern of many ethnic groups and endangered their subsistence.

The Tsar's order read that the native peoples should be treated respectfully and accommodatingly, while military actions should only be applied against armed revolts. But the local governors and taxmen had their own laws, if any. Historians report continual pillaging and violent encroachment resulting in the extermination of entire nations. A usual procedure to make the native peoples pay *yasak* was to take hostages, often respected elders. It was also usual to abduct, or buy, and enslave women and children. Tax raids could escalate into pillage and sometimes murder raids. Many times, the entire subsistence basis of a local indigenous group was destroyed, and they died of cold or hunger. In places, the oppression continued into the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Towards the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, most of Siberia to the Pacific coast was subject to Russian control. When Russian economies became worse, politicians decided to subdue the last resisting and opposing peoples, the Chukchi and Yukagirs, by military force. The Yukagirs were reduced to approximately half their population. During the smallpox epidemics of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and subsequent disasters, another 80% of the remaining population disappeared.

In areas of massive Russian settlement, the indigenous population was subject to russification with respect to language, economy, and social organisation. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, large areas on both sides of

the Trans-Siberian Railway were cleared of native population. Southern Siberia was affected most profoundly, and from there areas along the main waterways. But in other places, the opposite might happen. The most striking example is the yakutisation of Russian settlers in Yakutiya, where the native population had a strong social network that was not easily broken.

The official Russian policy towards the indigenous peoples in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was not always bad. Considerations of humanity and concern for the exploited natives led to attempts to control the situation by means of various (rather ineffective) laws forbidding slavery, limiting the exaction of tribute, prohibiting the sale of liquor and, as late as 1912, forbidding Russian traders to enter certain native territories. Still, the major trend of the development continued: loss of land, economic decline, dissolution of subsistence patterns, disintegration of the social framework.

### **Forced into the Soviet system**

During the post-revolutionary Civil War that lasted from 1917 to 1924 (locally in the Far East), the Soviet administration replaced the tsarist governmental system. Passive victims of warfare between the two Russian factions, the indigenous population slid into a dispute between two competing political lines: one intended to secure a development according to each people's own cultural premises, while the other – the Stalinist line – aimed at the complete elimination of ethnic differences and the integration of all national groups into a common Soviet society. The Stalinist line won towards the end of the 1920s.

The administrative subdivision of Russia into national areas and districts was meant to reflect the ethnic composition of the respective territories. This was originally supposed to guarantee the influence of the individual peoples on local development, which was never realised. In contrast, the strict application of the class law turned the social pattern of the indigenous population upside down. Their natural leaders, wealthy reindeer owners and shamans, for instance, were regarded as exploiters and excluded from political positions, while the young, elected "working class" people often neither felt competent nor were expected by their fellow-tribesmen to make decisions on their own.

In the 1920s, there was a variety of initiatives to compensate for economic loss suffered by the indigenous population during the Civil War, such as economic support bills, tax exemption for minorities, erection of support centres, etc. But during the 1930s, under the dictatorship of Stalin, most of the economic and social structure that might still have been intact, was destroyed. The large-scale industrialisation of the Soviet Union needed the resources of the North. The state firms imported their own workers who stood outside the local authorities' jurisdiction. Natives whose subsistence was destroyed became dependent

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on service functions for the foreign industry or sought refuge in more hostile mountain and tundra areas.

Traditional reindeer-herding, hunting and fishing occupations were forcefully transformed into collective farms, kolkhozes, all across the Soviet Union. Local uprisings were put down and punished hard, for instance, in the Nenets and Taymyr areas in 1930-32. A number of national areas were dissolved, and the North was divided between various ministries. No controlling agency existed that could survey the continuous colonisation and exploitation of the land and the fate of its native inhabitants.

In 1941 th Russia was drawn into World War II. Many indigenous individuals had to fight at the fronts. The lack of young men for domestic occupations especially affected the vulnerable, small indigenous societies. Excessive numbers of domestic animals had to be slaughtered, and river mouths were depleted of fish in the fight against hunger. The thousands of men returning from the front had changed their social attitudes and thus accelerated cultural assimilation. European immigration to Siberia increased.

In the 1950s and 1960s, a large-scale campaign was pursued to lead the peoples into the “modern socialist civilisation”, by forced relocation into urban or semi-urban areas. The enforcement consisted in depriving rural areas of hospitals, schools and shops. Nomads were officially declared primitive human beings and were urged to settle. But there was not sufficient work in the new settlements to replace the lost traditional occupations. The consequences for many were further loss of economic ability and social structure, rising criminal rates and abuse of alcohol. In 1980, the ethnically based administrative areas were ceased, the word “minorities” was removed from law texts, and the local administrative bodies lost all but consulting functions.

The educational policies of Soviet Russia towards the indigenous peoples had been changing radically. The school system was renewed and underwent an important development in the 1920s. Linguists developed alphabets for all language groups, with special letters based on the Latin alphabet. Illiteracy dropped markedly. In 1937, Stalin forced the application of the Cyrillic alphabet for all languages, and linguists that had worked on customised alphabets were imprisoned as public enemies. A policy started that was aimed at wiping out all ethnic identity. After 1957, teachers were even punished for speaking anything but Russian to the pupils outside the mother tongue lessons.

The boarding-school system – originally meant to give nomad children the opportunity of a higher education – had a destructive influence on the minority cultures when extended to primary school level. Children were growing up far from their parents and returned at an age of 16-17 as almost complete strangers with often weakened ties to their ethnic origin and language, and almost without practical skills for the traditional occupations. As a result, the system favoured assimilation into the Russian society. The de-

crease in people using or understanding their native language is enormous. Today, the elder generation – above the age of 50 – carries on the language.

It would, however, be wrong to neglect positive developments during the Soviet era. One important example is that the role of women in the society achieved benefits, as many taboos were broken. Other examples were the improvement of health care, reduction of infant mortality, etc.

### **Environmental disaster**

Until ca. 1930, industrial development and large-scale extraction of natural resources by the colonialists were largely confined to the area adjacent to the Trans-Siberian Railway. From 1930, large industrial projects were started in the North that caused severe, though local, environmental damage: intensive forestry in the Igarka area (lower Yenisey), nickel mining at Norilsk (Yenisey mouth), and gold mining in Yakutiya. The major impacts in the far North started in the mid-1950s, especially the chopping down of forests for timber over great expanses. Vast hunting grounds were destroyed. Large amounts of timber were left to rot. The Soviet Far East lost more than 30% of its forests.

The oil and gas boom started in the mid-1960s. The largest oil deposits were in the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Area. Enormous forest areas were razed and the land was devastated by careless tracked-vehicle driving; rivers and bogs were polluted, and large areas became worthless for any sort of primary subsistence. In addition to the devastation of nature, the alien workers abused the indigenous population through pillage, theft, killing of reindeer, destruction of sacred sites, even robbery, rape, murder and burning of homes. The exploitation of the Yamal Peninsula was carried out quickly, though experts had not agreed on its profitability.

Both areas suffered immense loss of land and water resources. Railways and pipelines cut off reindeer migration routes. In the Khanty-Mansiyskiy and the Yamalo-Nenetskiy Avt. Okrug together, 110,000 km<sup>2</sup> of reindeer pastures, 28 economically valuable rivers, 177 km<sup>2</sup> of spawning areas and feeding fields were destroyed. Similar encroachments were made in the Far East in 1970-87, where reindeer herds decreased by 30-40%.

A significant impact of a different kind is nuclear pollution. From the atmospherical atomic bomb testing in Novaya Zemlya in the 1960s, large areas suffered radioactive contamination. In addition, nuclear explosions were often used for civil purposes like mining, attempts to divert rivers, and seismic sounding, some of which resulted in local radioactive fallout. High rates of related diseases are known from, for instance, Chukotka, northern Yakutiya, Kolguyev Island, and the Kola Peninsula. The tuberculosis rate – high throughout the North – is locally close to 100%.

Other lung diseases are common, while infant mortality is quickly rising.

### **Political reorganisation**

With the beginning of the Perestroika policy, movements against the disastrous situation for the Northern indigenous peoples started with an increasing frequency. In 1986, Koryaks succeeded in preventing a village liquidation in Kamchatka. Other examples of successful protests followed, like the fight of the Udege people in the Bikin Valley (Primorye) against the cutting of timber by foreign companies in the early 1990s. A large amount of regional associations developed which were supposed to defend indigenous interests.

In 1989, an expert meeting on minority problems achieved agreement on the necessity of severe changes in the Soviet minority policy. The experts pronounced that the best way to secure the future of the Northern minorities would be the establishment of ethnic territories with self-determination, cessation of the former policy of forced relocation, replacement of large-scale development programmes by locally adjusted small-scale projects, etc.

An important initiative by the minorities themselves was the formation of the embracing “First Congress of the Small Peoples of the North” in Moscow, March 1990. It resulted in the establishment of the “Russian Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East” (RAIPON), under the first elected president, Vladimir Sangi (Nivkh), who was later replaced by Yeremey Aypin (Khant) and then by Sergey Kharyuchi (Nenets). The association became the official representation of the Northern indigenous people towards Russian authorities and government. International institution building programmes, initiated by ICC (Inuit Circumpolar Conference) Canada in 1995, helped to develop the organisation into a significant political tool which today spearheads the peoples’ struggle for survival.

In 1998, RAIPON – together with the other embracing Arctic indigenous peoples’ organisations, Saami Council, ICC and Aleut International Association – was accepted as a permanent participant in the newly established (1996) Arctic Council. The main goal of this council is international co-ordination of development in the Arctic, with the pronounced participation of her indigenous populations.

### **The way ahead**

Environment, health, legal issues and economy are today on the agenda of the indigenous associations. RAIPON and associated organisations are working hard towards the Russian authorities concerning the emplacement of a satisfactory legal basis for indigenous rights. So-called ethnic communities are formed, where the native population executes a sort of self-determination in terms of traditional subsistence. Environmental violations have been brought to trial. Health-related development projects are initiated. Native communities are trying to go back to their traditional social clan structure and to revive the old ways of life in order to survive the present socio-economic crisis. The newly developed consciousness among the people, that their future is in their own hands, was nothing but a rhetoric phrase just a little more than a decade ago.

Enormous progress has been made during the past decade, but much more is still to be done. One of the main obstacles is the lack of financial means – not only for the associations, but also at an individual level. In many rural areas, there is shortage of basic things like food, equipment and firewood. The need for continuous support from the outside is fundamental.

The way the indigenous peoples of Russia have chosen is the one of partnership – with their neighbours, with the authorities – and at the global level. They are increasingly accepted as equal partners in the process of sustainable development in international fora. Progress at the domestic level is still very slow due to the reactionary behaviour of many local officials. But they fight with endurance.

The spirit of their ancestors is still there today. It has been the driving force for their survival through centuries. So, the Charter of their Association begins:

*“We, the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation, believe that:*

- *The Air, the Land and Water are blessed;*
- *Nature is the source of life;*
- *Man is but a drop in the whirlpool of life;*
- *The river of time is but a reflection of the past, present, and future and that how our ancestors lived in the past is how we now live and how our offspring will live in the future ...”*



## **Field Research in Siberia: Lessons in Socialism and Social Change**

*Patty Gray and Florian Stammer, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale), Germany*

In the last decade the image of Siberia in the view of the world has changed considerably. Whereas its past reputation was based on its history as a vast prison for all kinds of politically and socially undesirable persons, it has now become famous for its enormous natural resources. Covering half of the territory of what is today the Russian Federation, Siberia provides more than 80 percent of Russia's gas; 70 percent of its oil, 60 percent of its coal and almost all of its diamonds, as well as other valuable resources. Most of Russia's hard currency income is obtained from the export of these resources. Siberia, therefore, is of crucial strategic importance for Russia as well as for other countries that depend on its resources. For example, Germany's most important supplier of natural gas is Russia, and companies like Ruhrgas and BASF import gas from Siberia through joint ventures and long-term contracts lasting until 2025.

In spite of its strategic significance, Siberia's population accounts for only 17 percent of the whole Russian Federation, and most of that population immigrated there only in the 1960s and 1970s, during the course of industrialization. The indigenous inhabitants of Siberia are marginalized today, numbering in all less than 180,000 people. In most regions of Siberia, the population is a mix of incomers from all parts of the former Soviet Union, along with a small percentage of indigenous peoples. With the ongoing industrialization and the opening of Russia to world markets, a discourse on indigenous rights and environmental protection has developed. As a result, over the last decade Russia's officially designated "Peoples of the North" have become the focus of growing national and international attention.

Siberia thus presents striking contrasts and unprecedented opportunities for social research, and the Siberia Project Group at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology is taking full advantage of this. The six members of the group are working comparatively in various regions of Siberia among different ethnic groups, but there are several key themes that the researchers have in common. Primary among them is the fate of reindeer herding in the post-Soviet period. Although it might sound odd from a European perspective, reindeer herding was designated by the Soviet state as a branch of agriculture. And reindeer herding is by far the most predominant form of "agriculture" in the Russian North.

Another key common theme for members of the Siberia group is the process of privatizing state farms in the Russian North. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, each of Russia's 89 regions was left to its own devices to find a way to implement Russia's privatization program, which was passed down in the

early 1990s in the form of presidential decrees and other federal legislation. As a result, there have been a wide variety of outcomes. Nevertheless, almost everywhere people still talk of the "state farm" even when referring to an entity that has been legally privatized, and most everywhere there people express their nostalgia for the old socialist system.

A third important common theme is land, and this is one of the most contentious issues in the Russian North, especially since it involves claims by indigenous peoples who see rights to land as an important part of self-determination. One provision for indigenous peoples in Russian federal law is the option of establishing something called an *obshchina*, which is meant to be a kind of family-based community engaged in primarily subsistence activities. However, the law on *obshchina* does not once mention the word land, so it remains ambiguous as to whether these communities have the right to make claims to the very territories on which they are established.

A fourth common theme is cultural property. Property rights are not limited to tangible objects, but can be extended to intangibles ranging from dance forms to one's sense of entitlement to receive social welfare benefits. Land, for example, is seen by many as not only an economic good, but also as a definer of identity and a symbol of ancestral ties.

The Siberia group is situated within Prof. Chris Hann's department, which is currently focused on the study of changing property relations across Eurasia. Although it would be very easy to make Siberia seem exotic, members of the Siberia group are far more interested in showing how their research demonstrates the commonalities that exist across the former socialist countries. In spite of its seeming remoteness, Siberia was quite as thoroughly integrated into the Soviet state as the rest of Russia. Many of the processes that occurred in the Soviet satellite countries also occurred here, and many institutions are remarkably similar. For example, the process of consolidating state farms in Siberia, which involved closing down villages and relocating their residents, is similar to what happened in East Germany, as we have learned from the research of fellow institute colleague John Eidson in Saxony. Siberia is just one of many localities struggling to cope with its socialist heritage, and comparing it with the rest of Eastern Europe provides a fuller picture of the nature of socialism and its legacy.

The Siberia group has found links in another department of the institute, headed by Günther Schlee, which focuses on integration and conflict in Africa and Central Asia. Several of the researchers in Schlee's department are interested in pastoral systems, and this provides a point of common interest with the

## HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT

Siberia group's study of reindeer herding. Researchers from both departments have the opportunity to compare issues that are common to the study of pastoralism, such as spatial mobility, the use of pasturelands, and rights to property in animals. Comparison in this sphere could contribute substantially to the theoretical discourse on nomadism and pastoralism, for which data from Siberia has never before been used.

Of course, the closest and most fruitful comparative work happens between members within the Siberia group. Six anthropologists working comparatively on Siberia in one institute is a unique situation for Siberian studies, at least outside of Russia. Many different comparisons could be made among members of the group, but here we focus on the two sites that are geographically the most distant from one another: Yamal in Western Siberia, studied by Stammler, and Chukotka in the farthest northeast, studied by Gray. As we have discussed our research and compared our preliminary results, we have found remarkable similarities as well as surprising differences between our field sites.

Yamal is typically considered to be the one part of Siberia where reindeer herding was preserved in its most original form. Comparisons with Gray's research in Chukotka have made it clear that in Yamal there was, ironically, relatively less influence from Soviet institutions, although it is closer to the center. Yamal's indigenous peoples, the Nentsy, managed to maintain some autonomy while still being incorporated into the Soviet state. By moving back and forth among different communities, Stammler worked in the course of one year among state farm brigades, private reindeer herders, and members of an *obshchina*. He also managed to interview officials at different levels of the administration about political concepts for reindeer herding, legislation related to land, and resource extraction.

In addition to the classic field work method of participant observation, Stammler gathered data for his PhD. dissertation using a questionnaire that inquired mainly about herders' perceptions of property issues with regard to land and animals and the evolving market economy. Analysis of the data shows that property in private reindeer is crucial for the Nentsy. They managed to retain private ownership in Soviet times, and they maintain that reindeer must remain the personal property of the respective household head, therefore they will never give it up in the future. This uninterrupted experience in herding private reindeer served as a favorable starting point for Yamal herders as the transition to a market-oriented economy began. This may partly explain why reindeer herding in this region is doing rather well since the collapse of the Soviet Union – Yamal currently boasts the world's largest herd of domestic reindeer.

Herders' opinions about the other important object of research – land ownership – seem surprising given their preference for private herds: they feel that the pastures themselves should be officially common

property. This makes Yamal a particularly interesting case to examine in light of the “tragedy of the commons” idea, which holds that common lands will always suffer degradation without an outside regulatory mechanism to keep people from overusing them. According to the herders, grazing private herds on common pastures does not mean that everybody will use all of the pastures indiscriminately, as in an “open access” regime. On the contrary, the nomads know all the migration routes and patterns of all their neighbors and they cooperate to use the pastures in a flexible way.

In stark contrast stands Chukotka, located in the far northeast of Russia, facing Alaska across the Bering Strait. Chukotka is perhaps best known for its seal mammal cultures on the Chukchi Peninsula, but these represent only a tiny minority of Chukotka's indigenous population. All of Gray's research takes place in two districts in the western tundra region of Chukotka, where the bulk of the indigenous people live and where reindeer herding predominates. Gray is particularly interested in the political dynamics between the regional capital, district centers, and the far-flung villages. Consequently, she is the one member of the group who has probably spent the least time in the tundra with reindeer herders, since she is so often in the halls of power chasing down the people who make and implement policies that can affect reindeer herders for good or ill.

Over the years, Gray's research has turned up an increasingly bleak picture in Chukotka, especially in reindeer herding villages. Chukotka's economy has been in a shambles since the collapse of the Soviet Union, and this has caused serious breakdowns in infrastructure. In the past there were regular plane and helicopter flights that connected every point within Chukotka, but today many residents describe themselves as “hostages,” unable to move about the region in ways they took for granted in the past. State farms were “privatized” in the early 1990s and subsequently began to collapse. All of this has had an extremely negative effect on reindeer herding, and one symptom is a sharp drop in the reindeer headcount. There has also been an increase in mortality among the Native population, with a higher share of suicides, homicides, and alcohol-related deaths. The reindeer herders Gray interviewed described the shock they felt when the state farm stopped paying their salaries and no longer made regular deliveries of supplies to their tundra camps.

In 2000, Gray visited an *obshchina* in Chukotka's farthest western district. This was one of only three *obshchiny* that had been established in Chukotka in the 1990s – which is in contrast to other regions of Siberia, where *obshchiny* have been more common and have received some degree of support from regional administrations. Chukotka's administration was resistant to the idea of allowing so much local autonomy to village residents, and rejected attempts by the local legislature to pass a law regarding

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*obshchina* that would have supported existing *obshchiny* and encouraged the creation of new ones. This meant that Chukotka's three *obshchiny* were left to struggle on their own without support from the regional administration. Thus, the *obshchina* that Gray visited hardly knew that it was an *obshchina* – that is, when she conducted a house-to-house survey of residents, she found that they were unaware that their little community had been officially registered as an *obshchina*.

In making comparisons between Yamal and Chukotka, the most fundamental difference is that in Yamal there are too many reindeer, whereas in Chukotka they have all but disappeared. In Yamal, the herds have been growing steadily for 20 years, from 363,000 head in 1980 to 520,000 in 2001. In Chukotka, the total deer headcount fell from 540,000 in 1980 to 80,000 in 2001, representing the worst case scenario in all of Russia. One explanation for such an obvious difference might be simply our general observation that Soviet interference in Chukotkan reindeer herding seems to have been more disruptive than in Yamal. Since Chukotkan reindeer herding was so thoroughly incorporated into the Soviet system of central planning, the collapse of this structure meant the collapse of reindeer herding as well. In Yamal, where Soviet influence was less thorough, a way could be found to continue with after the breakdown of the state system.

The difference in the degree of Soviet influence is prevalent even in something as basic as the pattern of herd migration routes. In both regions, migration routes were prescribed by Soviet planners. However, in Yamal, the prescribed routes were similar to the historical Nentsy pattern of long north-south migrations, while in Chukotka the state farm territories were more circumscribed and arbitrarily defined, oriented around centrally-placed villages.

The analysis of our data on property relations shows that these differences matter even in the present. After privatization, one might assume that the herders simply came to own their deer privately, but this is not the case. In Yamal, the share of private deer never fell below 30% throughout the Soviet period, whereas in Chukotka, collectivization was so thorough that it fell to 5%. During perestroika, the share of private deer in Yamal grew and is now about 70%, whereas in Chukotka it has stayed at the same low level. In both regions, privately owned deer are typically mixed with collective herds, and thus property in deer is often “fuzzy.” In Yamal, only reindeer herders and zootechnicians know who owns which deer. Animals are often transferred surreptitiously from collective into private property, so that some state farm employees in Yamal comment cynically that privately owned deer “amazingly never die.” In Chukotka, it is more likely to be the opposite – the comment is that only private deer are lost or die.

For the purposes of building a market economy, these differences matter a lot, for how can a commer-

cial reindeer industry be built without deer? In Yamal, commercialization of reindeer herding has already begun to develop. For example, the sale of reindeer antler, for which there is much demand in China and Korea, began in the mid-1990s. Private enterprises were formed for this purpose, and most of these were run by Natives who formerly worked in the state farms. There have been some experiments in local processing and marketing of reindeer products, such as locally produced vodka with antler extract added, reindeer sausage, and even baby food.

A very different picture is found in Chukotka. Although there was enthusiasm for the antler business in the early 1990s, it was so poorly managed that it was not profitable and people gave it up. Reindeer herding is virtually not at all commercialized, because there is almost no market – problems with transportation inhibit marketing outside the region and there are no industrial cities nearby to consume meat. Moreover, a rent-seeking regional administration squashed the few attempts that were made at true private enterprise.

We were surprised to find that the role of industry may be an instrumental factor in these differences between Yamal and Chukotka. Since Yamal is the number one gas-producing region in Russia and the number two oil-producing region, the regional government is rich from taxes and profit sharing deals with industry. Industry finds it to their advantage to maintain good business relations with herders. They get meat for their workers at a better price, and hope to win favor from herders in case there are disputes over environmental damage -- which does happen, and this will probably become a more contentious issue in the future.

In Chukotka, industry is poorly developed. What Chukotka mainly has is gold, but mines have so far been unprofitable. When gold mines have been developed, they have tended to take over reindeer pastures and push herders off. Industry has not enriched the Chukotka administration, unlike Yamal – in fact, Chukotka has been Russia's number one debtor region, and last year the regional government was declared bankrupt. However, Chukotka now has a new governor who is actively seeking to develop both gold and oil deposits in Chukotka. If he succeeds, we will be able to test this hypothesis about the benefits of healthy industry for reindeer herders.

To sum up, when all these points are compared, one sees a general trend of continuity in Yamal, but one of disruption in Chukotka. We will be working together over the next year to better understand these differences and to find explanations for them. In general, when one considers issues such as the role of industry, how state farms were reorganised, and how property was distributed, Siberia represents very well both the socialist condition and the postsocialist transformation. Comparative research here not only helps us have a fuller picture of the North, but also shows the range of variation typical of postsocialist situations across Eurasia. In that sense, our research en-

courages comparisons not just with Siberia as a whole, but between specific locations within Siberia and specific locations in Eastern Europe, and has les-

sons for all societies undergoing a transformation away from socialism.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### News from the Ethno-Ecological Information Centre “Lach”

The Ethno-Ecological Information Centre “Lach” was established in Kamchatka in 2001 with the support of a Danish funding programme for indigenous issues in Russia. On the following pages, we have selected and translated some of the latest news of general interest distributed to the subscribers. Subscriptions and communications can be addressed to the Centre:

**Этно-экологический информационный центр «ЛАЧ»  
(Ethno-Ecological Information Centre “Lach”)**

683009, г. Петропавловск-Камчатский (Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy)  
ул. Академика Королева 11 кв.2 (ul. Akademika Koroleva 11 kv. 2)  
phone, fax: (+7) 4152-19-01-32  
e-mail: [lach@mail.kamchatka.ru](mailto:lach@mail.kamchatka.ru)

2 April 2002:

#### **First session of the UN Permanent Forum of Indigenous Peoples’ Issues**

The first session of the UN Permanent Forum of Indigenous Peoples’ Issues will take place from 13 to 24 May 2002 in New York. This forum is exclusively for participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and their organisations. Representatives of indigenous peoples’ organisations wishing to participate in the first session of the Permanent Forum need to fill in a registration form and provide a letter from their organisation requesting participation, to be sent to RAIPON (117415 Moscow, pr. Vernadskogo 37, building 2, office 527) not later than 15 April 2002.

#### **Work on elaboration of the Federal Law “About Hunting”**

The State Duma Committee on Natural Resources and Nature Use is working on the federal law project “About Hunting”. The Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) is represented by a working group composed of P.V. Sulyandziga, M.A. Todyshev and O.A. Murashko.

The working group approaches the leaders of the regional organisations of indigenous peoples with the following requests:

1) to inform RAIPON about the number of indigenous representatives, which at present are permanently working as hunters within trade hunting enterprises or cooperative manufacturing enterprises;

2) to provide information about the number of officially registered *obshchinas* (indig. communities) in your region, of which at least one person is pursuing the hunting trade as his main economic activity (indicate name, year of establishment, presence of consolidated hunting grounds with indication of their total size, by which authority and when the transmission of these hunting grounds to the *obshchina* was approved, and on which grounds in accordance with the enclosed forms.

RAIPON

#### **Meeting with a participant of the Aleut delegation to the KGPU**

On Monday, 1 April, at the Kamchatkan State Pedagogical University (KGPU), representatives of the University and the National Northern Academy met with Ms. Ellison A. Young, a representative of the Aleut Association of the Pribilof Islands and director of the Department of Cultural Heritage. Ms. Young was in Kamchatka with a delegation from the Aleutian Islands on a friendly visit. During the meeting the Academy introduced its work on preservation and revival of the native cultures of Kamchatka, and university and academy programmes concerning the study of Itelmens, Koryaks and Evens were presented. The parties agreed on future information exchange. It was also agreed to establish a few projects on which representatives from the Aleutian Islands could participate. The Aleutian delegation will visit Kamchatka once again in the summer of 2002.

EE IC “Lach”, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

9 April 2002:

### **First project under the “Lach” Competition Programme of Small Grants started**

On the evening of 8 April the first lesson of the souvenir workshop “Emem Kutkh” was held by Albina Morilova at the facilities of the Ethno-Ecological Information Centre “Lach”. This souvenir workshop project won the small grant competition of March 2002. During the month necessary material and equipment was purchased. The first lesson was scheduled to take place in the beginning of April, but was postponed due to bad weather. The project is directed towards the formation of conditions for joint activities of the Kamchatkan indigenous youth receiving education in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy. The main goal of the project is to introduce students to traditional activities like manufacturing souvenirs of glass beads, fur, etc. The project participants are mainly composed of members of the indigenous youth ensemble “Lach”, but other interested participants are invited to join. In total 10 participants have joined the classes. Classes will be held every Monday.

*EE IC “Lach”, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy*

16 April 2002:

### **International informational campaign through the project “Health and Environment of the Indigenous Peoples of the North”**

UNEP/Grid-Arendal and RAIPON are planning to carry out an informational campaign within the framework of the project “Health and Environment of the Indigenous Peoples of the North”. It is intended to send a group of three journalists – two foreign special correspondents (New York Times and Washington Post) and one from the Russian Federal mass media – to ten villages in the Northern regions (Lovozero, Krasnoe, Gyda, Ugut, Kuyumba, Kovran, Karaga, Omolon, Krasnyy Yar and Mongol) where information will be collected with the regional coordinators of the above-mentioned project.

*RAIPON*

### **First meeting of the Council of Indigenous Peoples’ Affairs took place at the Kamchatkan Oblast’s Administration**

On 10 April the Council of Indigenous Peoples’ Affairs at the Kamchatkan Oblast’s Administration started its work. Besides the members of the Council, the following persons attended: the representative of the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the Elizovo District (V.V. Deshchenko), the representative of the clan community “Ital” (V.M. Tyumentsev), and the vice-president of the Aleut International Association (V.V. Dobrynin).

During the meeting the Council's working plan for the year 2002 was elaborated. It was decided to exam-

ine the following issues during April: the perspectives of guaranteed fishing for immediate consumption for indigenous people in the Kamchatkan Oblast during the fishing season 2002; of assigning fishing grounds to the clan communities for the next period; of assigning hunting grounds to the clan communities and other juridical indigenous structures in the Kamchatkan Oblast.

The members of the Council discussed the law project “About the submission of changes to the Kamchatkan Law «On territorial-economic communities of indigenous peoples of the North in the Kamchatkan Oblast»”. O.I. Davydova, lawyer of the Information Centre “Lach”, has submitted these law propositions which are supported by the members of the Council.

Then the question of present housing problems was discussed, about which A.A. Asseva, representative of the Association of Indigenous Peoples of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, had forwarded a report. On this question it was decided to address a petition to the Town Administration of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy on apportioning communal housing space to the indigenous inhabitants.

*EE IC “Lach”, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy*

### **“Lands and traditions of the ancestors – their heritage”**

On 10 April 2002 the Information Centre “Lach” signed an agreement on cooperation on the realisation of the partnership project “Lands and traditions of the ancestors – their heritage”, funded by the Fund for Russian-American Economic Cooperation (FRAEC) and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) within the framework of the programme “USA – Russian Far East. Active partnership”.

The partner on the US West Coast side is the American-Russian University Center of Alaska, which has its representation in the town of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy.

The partners on the Russian Far East side are the public organisations of the Kamchatkan Oblast: the Kamchatkan public institution “Independent Defense” in the town Vilyuchinska, the Russian-American Center for Assistance to Small and Medium Business, the public organisation “Kamchatkan Liga of Independent Experts” from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, and the Native Community of Indigenous People and Old Settlers of the village Esso.

The problems chosen to be worked on through this project are urgent for the entire Russian Far East. They concern the formation of Territories of Nature Use for the indigenous people, according to the declaration the UN Decade of Indigenous People, 1994-2004. The project aims to encourage the socio-economic, cultural and demographic development of the indigenous peoples of Kamchatka, and also the preservation of their native living environment and traditional way of life.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Ethno-Ecological Information Centre “Lach” addresses this project by carrying out an informational-educational campaign about the project and by working towards the mass media.

**23 April 2002:**

### **ISAR-Far East**

ISAR-Far East is the Far Eastern section of the international charity cooperative “Initiative of Social Action and revival in Eurasia/ISAR Inc.” ISAR-Far East supports the formation of active associations, non-governmental and non-commercial organisations of citizens and initiative groups, providing informational and technical support, as well as rendering financial support to publically significant projects of these organisations. ISAR-Far East has announced yet another category of grants.

The programme includes now four categories of grants:

1<sup>st</sup> category: grants of up to US\$ 300 for non-commercial public organisations or initiative groups for carrying out local short-term projects concerning urgent local environmental problems;

2<sup>nd</sup> category: grants of up to US\$ 700 for non-commercial public organisations or initiative groups for carrying out projects not exceeding the duration of three months;

3<sup>rd</sup> category: grants of up to US\$ 3000 for non-commercial public organisations or initiative groups with grant experience (organisational experience, not individual experience of employees). Projects must not exceed the duration of 12 months;

4<sup>th</sup> category: grants of up to US\$ 7000 for registered, non-commercial public organisations with experience in carrying out funded projects, for publically significant projects to be carried out with appropriate and effective measures. At least two non-commercial public organisations must participate in projects of this grant category. 3-4 partners may participate, which can be either initiative groups, governmental or commercial organisations. Projects must not exceed the duration of 12 months.

*More detailed information can be obtained by calling phone no. (+7) (8 4152) 120-996 (Kamchatkan Liga of Independent Experts), e-mail: [liga@kamchatka.ru](mailto:liga@kamchatka.ru)*

**30 April 2002:**

### **Public health problems in Kovran**

Since 1995 the village of Kovran has not had a doctor. For the last six months, a surgeon has been contracted at the local hospital. The village is scarcely 400 inhabitants. The distance to the nearest village (Ust-

Khayryuzovo) is 20 km, but due to the lack of regular transportation, medical assistance from there is very difficult. The sick, which are sent to specialists at Ust-Khayryuzovo’s local hospital, get there in winter only on roundabout ways, because there is no regular winter transportation. Ambulance transport is only available in urgent cases and therefore those who are lucky to get air travel to the district hospital, have to wait for transportation back after recovery, because of the lack of airplane or helicopter transport to Ust-Khayryuzovo.

The hospital has not seen any major repairs for a long time and lacks furnishings. It is difficult to get medicines, bandaging material and necessary preparations. Patients need to buy medicines in the chemist’s shop in Ust-Khayryuzovo. The hospital has basic food products, but they do not satisfy normal calorific demands.

The hospital has localities in ten different places, but during winter and spring all are completely overfilled.

There are no young specialist teachers. The graduate school cannot offer higher or medium-grade academic medical education because for a number of years there have not been any chemistry or biology teachers at the middle school in Kovran. Possibly, the situation may change now, because there finally is a specialist teacher for the present academic year.

A difficult social situation affects particularly the youth and the elderly. The mortality rate in Kovran exceeds the birth rate; entire families are something rare in the village. Drunkenness and alcoholism are rampant, not only among young men, but also among the girls, the future mothers. Children are born weak and sickly.

*EE IC “Lach”, Kovran*

**7 May 2002:**

### **Small villages in the Kamchatkan North struggle for survival**

Khayryuzovo is the oldest village of the peninsula. A visit to the village, even in a hurry, leaves a strong impression on the soul, and a bitter taste in the mouth. Old, collapsing houses, absent supplies, lots of unsolved problems, the hopelessness of the people – this is what the eye catches at a glance. The problems of the village are critical: unemployment, the lack of basic food supplies and transportation (when necessary, people often walk to the nearest villages, Ust-Khayryuzovo and Kovran). Now the ice breaks in the river and the people are glad for this release – soon appear the first fish. The need to have a capable leader has long been obvious for this native Itelmen village, because passivity and indifference corrode their souls.

*EE IC “Lach”, Kovran*

**BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS:****IDENTITY AND ECOLOGY IN ARCTIC SIBERIA***David G. Anderson*

Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2002. Paperback edition. 280 pp. Price: £17.99

This is a first-hand account of a reindeer-herding collective in the remote Taymyr peninsula of Siberia. The author gives an intimate description of the day-to-day lives of a little-known group of Evenkis as they face both economic and ecological challenges. His study addresses questions of identity, nationalism, and ecological theory, as well as mapping the changes caused in the region by the formation of and the recent break-up of the Soviet Union.

*The following web-site gives a picture of the book and has a link to a PDF file sample chapter*

<http://www.oup.co.uk/isbn/0-19-925082-0>

*The first chapter is posted at Oxford as a PDF file at*  
<http://www.oup.co.uk/pdf/0-19-823385-X.pdf>

**WORKING WITH ABORIGINAL ELDERS****An Introductory Handbook for Institution-Based and Health Care Professionals Based on the Teachings of Aboriginal Elders and Cultural Teachers***Jonathan H. Ellerby*

Native Studies Press, Winnipeg, 2002. ISBN 0-9686138-2-9. Price: \$15.00

Based on the teachings and experience of a select group of local elders and cultural teachers, this manual addresses common and widespread areas of institutional conflict and concern in a manner that identifies solutions and provides information necessary for health care professionals and program administrators to work effectively with elders. Though focused on health care institutional issues, the material is naturally transferable to most institutional settings, including corrections, education, research, and justice.

The first section addresses questions raised by health care professionals working directly with Elders, such as:

- Who is an elder?
- How is an elder trained?
- What does an elder do?
- What is the appropriate protocol when working with an elder?

The second section addresses administrative issues involving Elders, such as: the hiring process, payment, teamwork, confidentiality, and time commitments.

*Contact:*

*Native Studies Press, 539 Fletcher Argue Bldg., University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, R3T 5V5 Canada*

*phone: (+1) 204-474-7352*

*fax: (+1) 204-474-7657*

*e-mail: [native-studies-press@cc.umanitoba.ca](mailto:native-studies-press@cc.umanitoba.ca)*

**PEOPLES OF THE TUNDRA: NORTHERN SIBERIANS IN THE POST-COMMUNIST TRANSITION***John Ziker*

Waveland Press, Prospect Height IL, 2002. Paperback: 208 pages. ISBN: 1577662121. Price: \$12.95

Ziker's account of the Dolgan and Nganasan peoples of the Ust Avam community is a valuable contribution to the Anthropology of post-Socialism, Anthropology of the north, hunter-gatherer studies, and Siberian ethnography. The book provides ethnographic detail on local economic practices, history, demographics, cosmology, land and resource management arrangements, and kinship, and relates these details to larger anthropological debates on human nature, relationships between colonizers and colonized, tradition, and sustainability. The book describes the devastating changes affecting indigenous people in the central Taymyr lowlands created in the wake of the Soviet Union's collapse, in particular: increasing isolation of remote communities along with a shift to non-market survival strategies; convergence of traditions among the Dolgan and Nganasan; and, increasing socio-economic differentiation between remote communities and urban centers.

*Information and orders:*

*Waveland Press, Inc., PO Box 400, Prospect Heights, IL 60070*

*phone: (+1) 847-634-0081*

*fax: (+1) 847-634-9501*

*<http://www.waveland.com>*

**ITELMEN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE***Michael Dürr, Erich Kasten and Klavdiya Khaloimova*

Ethnographic Library on CD - Volume 3. Waxmann Verlag. Münster/New York 2002. ISBN 3-89325-948-1

This CD is one of the outgrowths of a project in which native and western experts collaborate to preserve Itelmen language and traditional culture. The trilingual CD – Itelmen, Russian and English – not only addresses a scholarly audience but also serves pedagogical purposes in Kamchatka. It is based on an illustrated schoolbook, which contains vocabulary and phrases arranged by topic in Southern Itelmen (Khairyuzovo). This material is supplemented by a few texts and selected vocabulary from other dialects. Data are given in written form and as audio. Additional visual materials on Itelmen culture, such as photographs and video clips, are also included.

*Contact:*

*Dr. Erich Kasten*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **LANGUAGES OF THE PEOPLES OF THE NORTH IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY [ЯЗЫКИ НАРОДОВ СЕВЕРА В XX ВЕКЕ]**

#### **Essays on language development**

*Nikolay B. Vakhtin (Вахтин Н.Б.)*

St. Petersburg: Dmitriy Bulanin, 2001. 338 pp. ISBN 5-86007-298-8.

The book is devoted to descriptions and analyses of language development processes among the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of Russia. It consists of two parts. In the first part various published socio-linguistic material on the languages of these peoples is compiled. The material is systematised and arranged in chronological order. This part can possibly be used as a reference work. The second part is devoted to the interpretation of the material: analysis of the causes of ongoing processes, their characteristics and regional particularities with their bearing on contemporary socio-linguistic theories of language development on the basis of economic, social and political changes in the life of the Northern peoples during the past 50-60 years. The book contains not only published material, but also field data from the author's 25 years of work in the Northern regions.

#### *Contact:*

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### **THE PEOPLES OF THE RUSSIAN NORTH IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF OF 90s OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

#### **Economy. Culture. Politics.**

### **[НАРОДЫ КРАЙНЕГО СЕВЕРА РОССИИ ВО ВТОРОЙ ПОЛОВИНЕ 90-Х ГОДОВ XX В.]**

#### **Экономика. Культура. Политика.]**

*Natalina A. Lopulenko (Лопуленко Н.А.)*

Review of Russian Press Material. Moscow: Staryy sad, 2000. 342 pp. ISBN 5-89930-033-7.

This book – comprising analytical reviews of articles from the domestic, central Russian and regional press – attempts to introduce contemporary problems of the small-numbered peoples of the Russian North concerning the interaction between ethnic relations and the main social-economic processes in the northern regions.

#### *Contact:*

*Natalina Andreevna Lopulenko*

*Institute of ethnology and anthropology*

*117334 Moscow, Russia*

*Leninskiy pr. 32 A*

### **TRADITIONAL REINDEER-HERDING IN TAYMYR [ТРАДИЦИОННОЕ ОЛЕНЕВОДЧЕСКО-ПРОМЫСЛОВОЕ ХОЗЯЙСТВО ТАЙМЫРА]**

*Konstantin B. Klokov (Клоков К.Б.) & D.N. Shustrov (Шустров Д.Н.)*

Edited by the Acad. RASKhN E.E. Syroechkovskogo. Moscow: TsOP tipografii Izdatelstvo SPBGU, 1999. 124 pp.

This monograph is dedicated to the problems of reindeer-herding among the indigenous peoples of the Taymyr Autonomous Okrug. It shows the history of the formation of indigenous subsistence areas and the contemporary situation for the main branches of traditional subsistence – fishing, hunting and reindeer-herding. The book suggests ways to improve the organisation of traditional subsistence activities by commercialising them. A separate chapter deals with questions of establishing commercial fish production.

#### *Contact:*

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*Sredniy per. 41*

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### **THE BEAR AND THE SMALL PEOPLES OF THE NORTH - NARRATIVES ON RUSSIA AND ITS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

### **[BJØRNEN OG DE SMÅ FOLK I NORD - BERETNINGER OM RUSLAND OG DETS OPRINDELIGE FOLK]**

*Aitalina V. Alexeeva & Mads Fægteborg*

Natur og Folk i Nord, Copenhagen, 2002. Ca. 300 pp. Price: ca. DKK 300,-.

A new book in Danish on Russia and its indigenous peoples, to be published in June. A small chapter of the book is published as a special edition in the magazine "Sneuglen" (Aitalina V. Alexeeva Fægteborg: "På egen krop", price: DKK 30,-).

#### *Contact:*

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*Fax: +45 33320992*

*E-mail: [arctic@arctic-peoples.dk](mailto:arctic@arctic-peoples.dk)*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES:**

#### **1 – 3 August – 13th Inuit Studies Conference**

Anchorage, Alaska

**Contact:** Gordon L. Pullar, Department of Alaska Native & Rural Development, University of Alaska Fairbanks

**Phone:** (+1) 907-279-2700

**E-mail:** [g.pullar@uaf.edu](mailto:g.pullar@uaf.edu)

**Website for more information:**

#### **4-6 August 2002 – Conference on Gender Equality and Women in the Arctic**

Saariselkä, Inari, Finland

The economic, environmental, political, and cultural changes of the arctic societies have had a strong impact on the economic and cultural positions of women and men. However, questions of energy, economy, and the environment tend to dominate the political visions concerning the arctic area. The everyday life of women is mostly missing in this context. It is important to bring gender considerations onto the agenda and into mainstream policies.

There is a need to raise awareness on the situation of women in the Arctic and to give voice to women to express their experiences, views, and interests regarding future action. The conference offers a forum for discussion and contacts and aims to develop ideas and proposals for further action to be taken by the Arctic Council and other relevant institutions.

##### **Symposium Topics:**

1. Women and work in the Arctic
2. Human rights in the Arctic from a gender perspective
  - 2a. Gender in the self-determination of Indigenous people
  - 2b. Violence against women and trafficking in women

**Organisers:** Arctic Council, Nordic Council of Ministers

**Languages:** Simultaneous interpretation to and from English and Russian

**Abstracts Due:** 15 February 2002

**Contact:** Laura Tohka, Conference Co-ordinator, Department of Women's Studies, FIN-33014 University of Tampere, Finland

**Phone:** (+358) 3-215 8982

**Fax:** (+358) 3-215 6562

**E-mail:** [laura.tohka@uta.fi](mailto:laura.tohka@uta.fi)

**Website for more information:** <http://www.arctic-council.org/pmeetings/gender/1st.asp>

#### **11 –13 August 5<sup>th</sup> – Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Regions**

Tromsø, Norway

**Contact:** Mr. Kjell Myhre-Jensen, Stortinget (Norwegian Parliament), N-0026 Oslo, Norway

**Phone:** (+47) 23 32 36 01

**Fax:** (+47) 23 31 38 62

**E-mail:** [apc2002@stortinget.no](mailto:apc2002@stortinget.no)

**Website for more information:** <http://www.grida.no/parl>

#### **1 – 4 October – 2nd AMAP International Symposium on Environmental Pollution in the Arctic**

Rovaniemi, Finland

**Contact:** AMAP Secretariat, N-0032 Oslo, Pb. 8100 Dep., Norway

**Phone:** (+47) 23 24 1630

**Fax:** (+47) 22 67 6706

**E-mail:** [amap@amap.no](mailto:amap@amap.no)

**Website for more information:** <http://www.amap.no/>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **30 March -1 April 2003 – 7th International Symposium on Mining in the Arctic** Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada

The Seventh Symposium on Mining in the Arctic will be held in Iqaluit, Territory of Nunavut, during the early spring of 2003. Iqaluit, the capital of Canada's newest Territory, is easily accessible from Nuuk, Greenland, from Ottawa, Montréal, and Yellowknife, Canada, and from other communities in Canada's far north. The pre and post-symposium field trips will all depart from Iqaluit.

A comprehensive technical program is planned. Social events will focus on local cultural and leisure activities. Presentation of a paper at the Symposium is a requirement for its inclusion in the Proceedings.

#### **Symposium Topics:**

1. Mining Industry Case Histories
2. Mining under Hostile Conditions
3. Arctic Exploration Technologies
4. Arctic Environmental Issues
5. Arctic Mining regulatory Issues
6. Economics of Arctic Mining Developments
7. Decommissioning of Arctic Mines

**Abstracts Due:** 1 April 2002

**Contact:** Mining and Mineral Sciences Laboratories, Natural Resources Canada, c/o 555 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0G1

**Phone:** (+1) 613/947-8383

**Fax:** (+1) 613/996-2597

**E-mail:** [judd@nrca.gc.ca](mailto:judd@nrca.gc.ca)

**Website for more information:** <http://www.nunanet.com/~cngo/isma.html>

### **NEW INTERNET WEBSITES**

The Northern Forum - Северный форум: <http://www.northernforum.org>

University of the Arctic - Университет Арктики: <http://www.urova.fi/home/uarctic>

Siberia Research Group, Max-Planck Institute for Social Anthropology: <http://www.eth.mpg.de/research/siberia>

Association of the Nenets People "Yasavey" - Ассоциация ненецкого народа "Ясавэй": <http://www.raipon.net/yasavey>

Хабаровская краевая Ассоциация народов Севера - Khabarovsk Regional Association of the Peoples of the North:

<http://www.raipon.net/khab-ilc>