



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

THE NORTHERN FORUM



Author: Vladimir Vasilev, Executive Director of the Northern Forum



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Dear friends,

At the beginning of the year 2022 we were very optimistic after creating a solid foundation for the breakthrough development of the Northern Forum. New initiatives kept coming, expanding the areas and vectors of cooperation, the best of all being that they were coming from the regions.

Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council invited the Northern Forum to organize major international forums (Arctic Resilience Forum, Arctic Energy Summit, Youth Startup Forum and others), recognizing the significant work that the regions of the Northern Forum are doing to strengthen international cooperation in the Arctic. Our organization has firmly established itself and gained trust at the highest level.

But this year has become the one to test our endurance in the hardest possible way. A sharp and global change in the geopolitical situation in the world in February, aggravation of all intercountry contradictions and rupture of relations between the Western countries and the Russian Federation resulted in a complete suspension of cooperation in the Arctic.

It felt like a rider falling off the saddle at high speed right into a deep abyss...

The foreign part of our organization also stopped cooperating with the Russian regions. Lapland suspended its chairmanship at the very peak of our active work. We are grateful to Governor Mika Riipi for his concern for the Northern Forum activities and commitment to promote it throughout the Arctic and the world. We hope that after a while we will be able to get back to those ambitious plans that we started to implement by the beginning of the year. All the more so as there were no difficulties with the candidate for the next Chairing region: we were all very enthusiastic in our reaction to the wish of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug-Yugra to chair the organization from 2023.

The Northern Forum has once again demonstrated its sustainability, adoptability and ability to timely and appropriately respond to the most complicated challenges of the rapidly changing world. We are grateful to the founder for the solid foundation and the universal mission that allow to find the new forms and communications of management and interaction, and to not only keep the organization afloat but to secure its dynamic development.

The Northern Forum Development Strategy until 2030, where the mission, goals, vision for the future and principles of activity are defined, makes a strong basis for the sustainability. The Northern Forum Short and Midterm Development Concept *The Challenge of Time: from Localness to Globality*, developed in March, allowed to restructure the activities of the organization in a short time and turn them eastwards, aiming for the global level. The first steps prove the decisions made right.

The heads of the member regions and the Regional Coordinators Committee have demonstrated their unity and ability to make quick decisions, providing all possible support to the Secretariat, and all together we are moving forward, enhancing the development.

The Institute of the Northern Forum Goodwill Ambassadors fully proves its worth in such difficult times: a truly international support team has formed, which actively seeks and finds ways to develop and maintain international cooperation within the Northern Forum at the proper level. We are inspired by



VLADIMIR VASILEV
*Executive Director of the
Northern Forum,
President of the Northern
Forum Academy*

the fact that more and more high-class professionals are ready to take on the status of the Goodwill Ambassadors.

The Northern Youth Forum is virtually starting to show its potential, involving more and more young people and initiating new projects; we are expecting a breakthrough here in the very near future.

We have launched a gradual reorganization of the Working Groups. Project activity is one of the most attractive areas for all members of the Northern Forum. We hope that the revival of the Call for Projects will allow establishing active interregional cooperation and bring tangible benefits to all NF member regions.

We are grateful to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic and the Ministry of Higher Education and Science of the Russian Federation, and all partners for their continued support of our initiatives and ongoing projects and events.

Thus, in 2022 a progressive and dynamic development of the Northern Forum continued, enriching our activity with new areas and projects. The Northern Forum has a firm foothold for a proactive progression, and this is why, in spite of any cataclysms, we face the future with confidence.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN AND ARCTIC REGIONS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL BE THERE!





MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the Northern Forum is to improve the quality of life and support the regional sustainable development.

Goals:

- Providing tools and opportunities to regional leaders and representatives in exchanging knowledge and experience and solving common problems;
- Implementing joint socio-economic initiatives at the regional level;
- Organizing international forums and implementing projects.

VISION

To turn the Northern Forum into an effective non-alternative structure for interregional international cooperation of the regions of the North and the Arctic, which shapes world politics in this area and is an equal partner of the Arctic Council, the Barents Region, the University of the Arctic, with its own unique niche.

1. To become a global competence center for interregional international cooperation of the territories of the Arctic and the North.
2. To become an effective training and educational organization for its members and partners.
3. To become a platform for innovative projects.
4. To become an efficient bridge between the entrepreneurs and development finance institutions.
5. To become a smart organization through a partner and expert network.

PRINCIPLES

- The principle of public (“grassroots”) diplomacy
- The principle of independence and equality
- The principle of respect for international law
- The principle of non-discrimination
- The principle of reliance of neighborhood effects and diversity effects

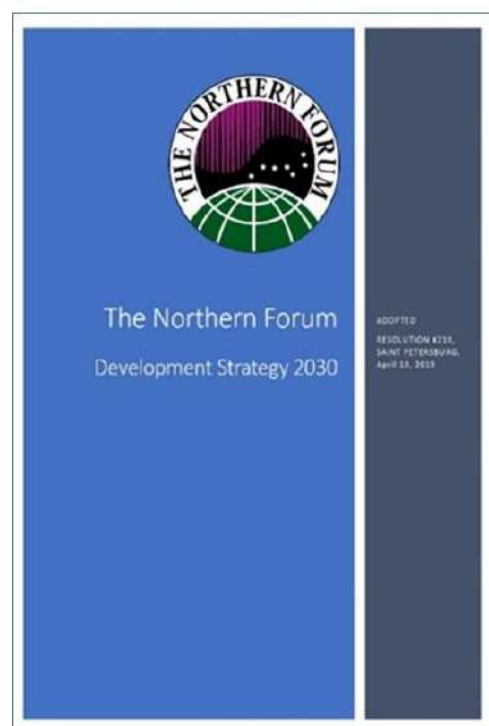


A NEW STAGE IN THE NORTHERN FORUM DEVELOPMENT DUE TO THE CHANGED GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION

The beginning of the special military operation in Ukraine has sharply changed the international situation not only in the Arctic but in the whole world. Successful Arctic cooperation stopped at once. The initial, rather optimistic, forecasts of the conflict's swift resolution were not realized; in early March it became quite clear that it was just the beginning and we had to prepare for a long-term confrontation. All international organizations in the Arctic have suspended cooperation with Russia. The Northern Forum was no exception: on March 4, Lapland notified the Secretariat of suspending its chairmanship.

Accordingly, we had to revise not only the current plans (all international plans under Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council were postponed), but also the overall strategy for the near future.

After analyzing the possible areas of activity, emerging global trends and foreign policy of the Russian Federation, as well as after a series of consultations with the leading experts, the Executive Director of the Northern Forum, together with the Goodwill Ambassador, Director General of the Regional Consulting Institute, Professor of Lomonosov Moscow State University Alexander Pilyasov, developed the NF Short and Midterm Development Concept, aimed at turning eastward and going global.



In general, the Concept suggests returning to the origins and to the idea laid down when the organization was created: about possible productive cooperation between the northern and southern

regions, as well as bringing the voice of the regions of the North and the Arctic to the global community. For a long time, Hokkaido Prefecture (Japan), Heilongjiang Province (PRC), the Republic of Korea, and then Kangwon Province of this country, were actively involved in the Northern Forum. In the 1990s, Dornod Province (Mongolia) was a member.

At the beginning of its development, the Northern Forum obtained a consultative status to the UN NGO sector (ECOSOC), was a member of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4sd), and the Forum of Global Associations of Regions (FOGAR). Since 2007, the Northern Forum has been accredited by the UN Environment Program, and in 2021, the observer status to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change was restored.

All that made a right framework for the transition to a new stage of development without significant losses, although weakening of a position in the Arctic cooperation is expected.

Geographically, the Concept proposes to restore communications with the Asian regions that used to be the Northern Forum members, with a possible expansion of interaction with other interested regions of the continent. To this end, it was proposed to introduce a new class of membership - associate membership.

The Concept suggests viewing the project activities that can efficiently benefit the achievement of the sustainable development goals as the priority areas of activity.

Institutionally, it is suggested to scale up the Northern Forum on the global platforms, primarily at the events of the UN and its structures.

The Concept was endorsed by the Regional Coordinators Committee at its meeting in Khanty-Mansiysk on June 6-7 and approved by the Governors Summit, held in Yakutsk within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum on November 28.

Thus, a new stage in the NF development began in March 2022. The following sections of the Report will describe the current structure of the organization and its activities in the key areas during the year.



Northern Forum




MEMBERSHIP

1.1. MEMBER REGIONS

Current membership status

Changes in the international situation led to the fact that at the end of February the Northern Forum in fact turned into an organization of Russian regions; although at first the foreign member regions did not inform of their resignation, they stopped any interaction, ceasing to participate even in the online events of the Northern Forum.

By the end of the year, when it became obvious that the global conflict between the West and the Russian Federation would last, the City Board of Akureyri, followed by the Regional Council of Lapland, decided to resign from the Northern Forum, legally formalizing what had become obvious in spring.



Municipality of Akureyri

28th of November 2022.


Resignation letter.

This is to inform you that the Akureyri City Board has made a decision (November 15th, 2022) to resign from the membership of the Northern Forum:

Akureyri city board agrees with 11 unanimous votes to accept the minutes of the city council, which condemns the invasion of the Russian government in Ukraine and therefore agrees to end twin-city cooperation with Murmansk. At the same time, the city board agrees that Akureyri should withdraw from the Northern Forum organization.

In the present situation, it has become impossible to participate in the work of the Northern Forum.

With regards,



Asthildur Sturludóttir
Mayor of Akureyri Municipality

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REGIONAL COUNCIL
OF LAPLAND

20 декабря, 2022 г.

Заявление о выходе из состава Северного Форума

Настоящим сообщаем вам, что правление Регионального Совета Лапландии на своем заседании 16 декабря 2022 г. приняло решение (§136) о выходе из состава Северного Форума с 1 января 2023 года.

В сложившейся ситуации участие в работе Северного форума стало невозможным.



Мика Риипи
Губернатор Лапландии
Региональный Совет Лапландии
Председатель Северного Форума

REGIONAL COUNCIL
OF LAPLAND

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In November, the sitting Governor Michael Dunleavy, strongly opposed to the Russian Federation, won a convincing victory in the gubernatorial election in Alaska (USA), which means that Alaska will not be active in the Northern Forum for the next 5 years. It should be noted that there was no official letter of the state's resignation from the Northern Forum, therefore, Alaska will be listed as an inactive region for some time.



A new Governor Kim Jin-tae was also elected in Gangwon Province (Republic of Korea) in early June. In his reply to the NF Secretariat's congratulation, Governor Kim Jin-tae informed us about his wish to strengthen cooperation and to meet the NF Executive Director in person. Governor Kim Jin-tae noted that in July 2023 Gangwon Province would get a status of a special autonomous province, which will allow to considerably expand its economic ties with different regions. In November, the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and the Northern Forum were invited to the World Forest Expo to be held in Gangwon Province in September 2023. So, we are hopeful of gradual revitalization of communication with Gangwon Administration.

At the same time, one of the Russian regions – Khabarovsk Krai – also decided to suspend its membership, saying that it is not an Arctic region, which can't be taken as a reason in the conditions when the Northern Forum is turning eastwards and the regions of the Far East are playing an increasingly larger role. We hope that this decision will be recalled shortly.

Thus, we have to state that by the end of the year the number of member regions decreased to 9 and now includes 7 regions of the Russian Federation (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Kamchatka Krai, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug and Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug), Gangwon Province (Republic of Korea) and the State of Alaska (USA) (in an inactive status).

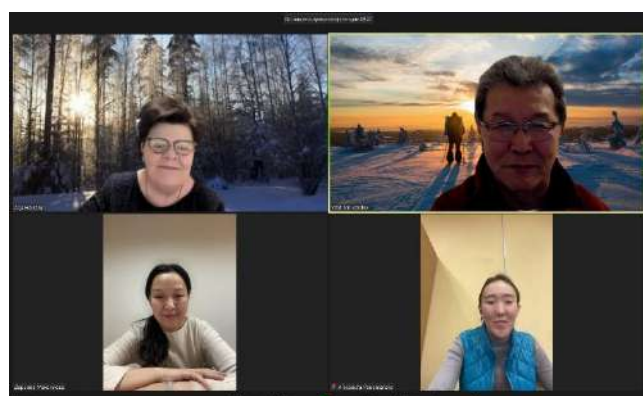


Lapland's Chairmanship

After taking over the chairmanship, Lapland was set up for creative and dynamic work. Regular communication was established between the Northern Forum Chair, Governor of Lapland Mika Riipi and the NF Secretariat. At the beginning of 2022, we actively began planning our joint work on membership expansion and a trip of the Chair, Executive Director and Regional Coordinator to the USA and Canada, with a visit to the UN Headquarters and a number of regions.

After the beginning of the special military operation in Ukraine Lapland decided to suspend its chairmanship. Accordingly, all joint plans were postponed indefinitely.

Still, active communication with the Regional Coordinator Arja Haikara was maintained almost until the end of the year 2022.





It should be noted that Nenets Autonomous Okrug chaired the Northern Forum during the pandemic, and in March 2022 it had to take over the chairmanship again. The Secretariat is sincerely grateful to the Governor of Nenets Autonomous Okrug Yuri Bezdudny and the Regional Coordinator, Chair of the Okrug's the International and Interregional Relations Committee Sergey Kungurtsev for their support of every kind.

1.2. BUSINESS PARTNERS

Since the Northern Forum's establishment, the number and quality of business partners have been changing, depending on the interests of the companies and organizations. At the beginning of the year 2022, the Northern Forum had the following business partners:

- Lapland Chamber of Commerce (Finland)
- The Institute of the North, Alaska (USA)
- Arktika LLC, Alaska (USA)
- The High North Center for Business and Governance of the Nord University Business School (Norway)
- Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Centre (Japan)
- Energy Saving Technologies LLC, Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Russia)
- The Arctic Portal, Akureyri (Iceland)

Lapland Chamber of Commerce

<https://www.lapland.chamber.fi/in-english/>

At the beginning of the year, Lapland Chamber of Commerce got actively engaged in the joint work and was ready to chair a newly established Association of Chambers of Trade and Commerce and Business Partners of the Northern Forum. The 2022 membership due was paid at the beginning of the year. Following the start of the special military operation in Ukraine, the Secretariat received a letter of resignation from the Northern Forum from the President of Lapland Chamber of Commerce Liisa Ansala.



The Institute of the North

<https://institutenorth.org/>



The Institute has consistently supported the Northern Forum, and when Alaska left the organization, it represented the NF in North America.

At present, the Institute is headed by Ian Laing. For the year 2022, we planned to jointly work on organizing the Arctic Energy Summit within Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council. Ian Laing confirmed his willingness to represent the NF interests in North America as well as to act as the Regional Coordinator for Alaska, if supported by the State's Governor, but following the start of the special military operation in Ukraine, Ian Laing notified the Secretariat of the Institute's Board of Directors decision to suspend its cooperation with Russian organizations.



ArKtiKa LLC



The company became our business partner in December 2020, and its partner Kristina Baiborodova began to actively assist business cooperation within the NF by initiating a series of Arctic Business Relations Circle online conferences. 6 meetings on various topics were held in 2021, involving a significant number of regions not only from the Northern Forum but even from beyond the Northern hemisphere. There were no joint activities in 2022 but the company maintains its membership.



The High North Center for Business and Governance of the Nord University Business School

<https://www.nord.no/en/about/faculties-and-centres/business-school/research-centres/highnorthcenter>



The High North Center for Business and Governance is an international center for research, education and communication, connected to societal and business development in the Arctic.



Frode Mellemvik is the Center's Director.

In 2022, the Center didn't take part in the NF events but continued inviting to its events. The Secretariat didn't receive any official notifications of changing the organization's status in the Northern Forum. The 2022 due has been paid.

Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Centre

<https://hiecc.or.jp/english/>

The Northern Regions Center, currently HIECC (Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center), was established to actively promote the economy, culture and academic exchange between Hokkaido and other northern areas and to facilitate appropriate exchanges with other regions.

The President of the Center is Toshio Sato.

At the beginning of 2022, the Center paid its membership dues for the years 2021 and 2022. At the same time, there were no joint activities in 2022. The Secretariat didn't receive any official notifications of changing the organization's status in the Northern Forum.

Energy Saving Technologies LLC

<https://www.ensatech.ru>



The company was established in 2011 and was the Northern Forum's active partner; they visited different regions as part of the NF delegation, attended the RAPP meeting, and actively studied and exchanged other countries' practices in construction and power industry. The company successfully implements these practices in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia). They work





with energy service contracts, implement projects on MSW separation and pellet production, and establish a modern tourist camp with Lena Pillars Hotel.

The company is considering the resumption of its business partner status in the nearest future.

The Arctic Portal

<https://arcticportal.org>



The Arctic Portal has actively facilitated the Northern Forum in promoting its mission and goals; it maintains the NF official website. The Portal maintains the websites of over 60 organizations of the Arctic and the North and is one of the most visited resources about the Arctic; the fact that the NF website is maintained by the Arctic Portal allows us to widely disseminate information about our activities.

The Arctic Portal opened the NF settlement account and keeps its records. The Portal's Director Halldor Johannsson had initiated the creation of the Northern Forum Foundation, which was supported by the Board of Governors and the Regional Coordinators Committee.

Halldor Johannsson is one of the most active participants of the Northern Forum events and represents it at different forums.



1.3. BUDGET PERFORMANCE

INFORMATION ON THE RUBLE ACCOUNT

As of January 1, 2022, the balance of the account of the Northern Forum Academy, on which basis the NF Secretariat operates, made 204 017 rubles 11.

All Russian regions paid their membership dues on schedule but there are minor differences in the paid amounts: in the Sakha Republic and Khabarovsk Krai, the fixed amounts of the membership dues are formalized in legislation in the 3-year budgets, whereas Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra can pay the due based on the current rate of the Russian Central Bank on the day of payment. Other regions don't have any problems paying the established amount of the due in rubles in compliance with the Bylaws.

INCOME

Receipt of dues					
№	Regions	Due amount as per the Bylaws		Actual payment	
		\$	₽	\$	₽
1	Kamchatka Krai	7 500,00	552 000,00	7 500,00	552 000,00
2	Krasnoyarsk Krai	25 000,00	1 840 000,00	25 000,00	1 840 000,00
3	Nenets AO	5 000,00	368 000,00	5 000,00	368 000,00
4	Sakha Republic (Yakutia)	25 000,00	1 840 000,00	24 864,13	1 830 000,00
5	Khanty-Mansyisk AO – Yugra	22 500,00	1 656 000,00	23 409,84	1 722 964,50
6	Chukotka AO	5 000,00	368 000,00	5 000,00	368 000,00

7	Yamal-Nenets AO	12 500,00	920 000,00	12 500,00	920 000,00
8	Khabarovsk Krai	17 500,00	1 288 000,00	16 304,35	1 200 000,00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	120 000,00	8 832 000,00	119 578,32	8 800 964,50
	Balance as of 01.01.2022				204 017,11
	TOTAL				9 004 981,61

EXPENSE

№	Expense item		Plan	Actual expense
1	Payroll, including		5 078 400,00	4 190 291,20
2	Charge on payroll 30,2%		1 533 676,80	1 265 467,94
3	Private entrepreneur Vashchenko N.F.	Remuneration for accounting services	670 790,40	670 790,40
4	Travel expenses		1 104 000,00	1 015 362,50
5	Support for the Northern Youth Forum	Office furniture, travel expenses	515 200,00	140 992,60
6	Translation and interpreting services		300 000,00	225 568,00
7	Rent of premises		730 310,99	841 284,21
8	Communication services	Internet, telephone	80 000,00	93 212,28
9	ZOOM business account subscription		215 000,00	36 270,70
10	Other expenses	Stationery, administrative expenses, publishing a brochure	530 621,81	280 273,21
11	Support for the <i>Restart</i> - a program for the indigenous youth development in Kamchatka Krai	Donations	0,00	200 000,00
12	Banking services		82 000,00	58 049,67
	TOTAL EXPENSE:		11 040 000,00	9 017 562,71
	Excess expense			-12 581,10

We managed to minimize costs by economizing on payroll (keeping a vacancy, hiring a part-time specialist), sequestering the Northern Youth Forum support, other expenses (we didn't manage to buy new computer hardware and office automation), translation services.

By reducing the Northern Youth Forum expenses, it became possible to support the indigenous youth project in Kamchatka Krai.

OTHER EXPENSES

In 2022, it was agreed to introduce registration fees for the participants of the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum (RUB 1 000 for online participants, RUB 5 000 for offline participants), as well as to attract organizations as official partners with a contribution of RUB 100 000).



Thanks to this support, it was possible to ensure the Secretariat's financial stability and to not only cover the excess expense but also form a small "cushion" for the mandatory payments in January 2023.

№	RECEIPTS	AMOUNT
Official partners		
1	GALAD Green Line	100 000,00
2	ARCTIC SICENCE AND RESEARCH CENTER, FOR NORTH SICENCE AND EDUCATION CENTER	100 000,00
3	JSCB ALMAZERGIENBANK JSC	100 000,00
4	BURLAK OFFROAD	100 000,00
5	NORD POWER LLC (Urdel Activity Park)	100 000,00
6	SYSTEMIC CONSULTING LLC for SLAVNEFT	100 000,00
Individuals – online and offline participants (31 people)		
	Total, with account of the early registration and deducting the acquiring fee	109 252,10
	Total receipts	709 252,10
EXPENSES		
1	Simplified Tax System 6%	55 200,00
2	EVOTOR LLC – acquiring	38 340,00
3	Pavel Sofronov for business support of the NSDF website	18 881,80
4	VYSOTA 160 LLC for the cultural event	276 545,00
	Total expenses	388 966,80
	BALANCE	320 285,30

1.4. NEW EDITIONS OF BYLAWS AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

New editions of the Northern Forum Bylaws and Rules of Procedure were approved at the 14th General Assembly.

The major changes affected the structure of the organization, with new components being introduced, such as Working Groups, Goodwill Ambassadors, Northern Youth Forum. The number of Vice-Chairs has changed due to the declining number of the member regions.

Also, certain sections of the documents have been edited to meet the present-day developments.

Work on the statutory documents will continue in connection with introducing a new membership class, changes in the amount of dues, and possible introduction of the new components in the organization's structure.

All changes are to be approved at the 15th General Assembly in 2023.

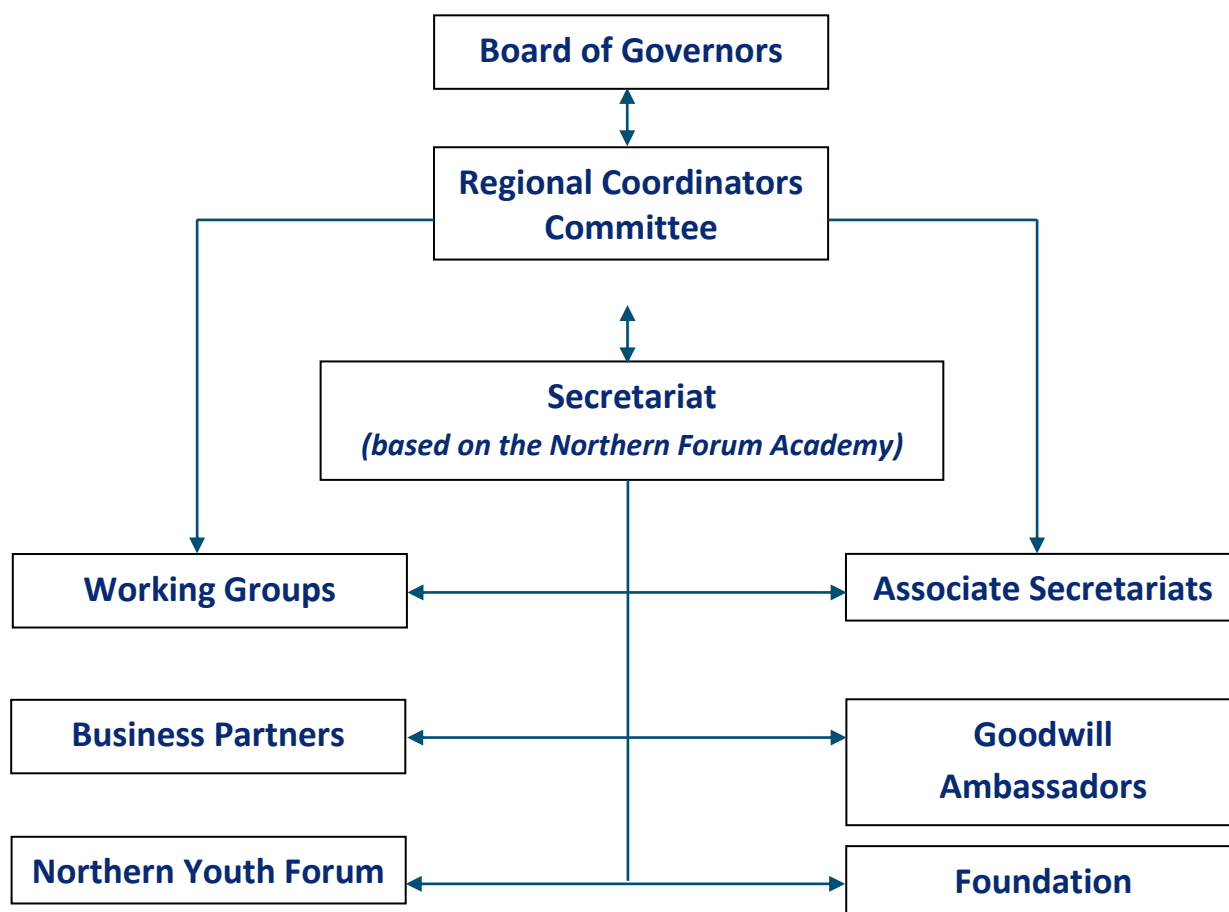


ORGANIZATIONAL SRUCTURE



2.1. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

In compliance with the NF Development Strategy till 2030, the new Bylaws and Rules of Procedure have added new components to the organizational structure, which aim to significantly enlarge the scope of the organization's activities and promote its transfer to a new level of development.



This organizational structure has allowed to improve the coordination of work between the regions, involve proactive and well-known people in the activities to support the Northern Forum and promote its mission all over the world.

At the same time, due to changing the organization's development vector east and southwards, the Secretariat suggested to introduce a new membership class – associate membership – for the regions without distinct characteristics of northern territories and outside the circumpolar zone. The proposal was supported by the Regional Coordinators Committee and the Governors Summit. Relevant amendments to the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure will be prepared for the General Assembly.

In terms of the organizational structure, it should be noted that the Northern Forum Secretariat operates on the basis of the Association for the Northern Territories' Development Assistance *The Northern Forum Academy*, being a legal entity.

The creation of the Northern Forum offices' network in different Arctic countries, followed by the formation of associated secretariats on their basis, has been quite successful. Effective interaction was established between the Secretariat, the Office of the Governor of Lapland (Finland), the Arctic Portal

(Iceland) and the Institute of the North (Alaska, USA) and, most likely, a network of associated secretariats could have appeared quite soon, but this activity has been suspended. This component of the organizational structure is now in a sleep mode until the situation improves or new forms and mechanisms of their development appear.

The Northern Forum Foundation, which was successfully registered in Akureyri (Iceland) in January, but did not have time to start operating due to many obstacles, restricting money transfers between the Russian Federation and the unfriendly countries, is now in a sleep mode as well.

The idea of establishing the Indigenous Peoples Council has been proposed several times. The Arctic Portal proposes to form an international steering committee at the expert level. Similar practice was introduced in the Northern Forum at the beginning of the century.

Thus, further work is to be done to improve the organizational structure.

2.2. THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is a supreme management body making major decisions on supporting the organization's activities and on its development strategy. The Board consists of the regions' leaders with a deciding vote. The Chair of the Regional Coordinators Committee and the Executive Director are responsible for preparing the Board meetings and attend them with a consultative vote.

As a rule, the Board is convened during the General Assembly. Between the General Assemblies, the Governors Summits are held within large international forums.

In 2022, the members of the Board of Governors were as follows:



Dmitry Artyukhov

Governor of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia) since September 9, 2018



Yuri Bezdudny

Governor of Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia) since September 13, 2020
Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum



Michael James Dunleavy

Governor of Alaska (USA) since December 3, 2018
Reelected to the second term on November 8, 2022



Mikhail Degtyarev

Governor of Khabarovsk Krai (Russia) since September 24, 2021

Member of the Board of Governors until November 9, 2022



Kim Jin-tae

Governor of Gangwon Province (Republic of Korea) since June 2, 2022

Member of the Board of Governors since June 2, 2022



Natalia Komarova

Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra (Russia) since March 1, 2010



Roman Kopin

Governor of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug (Russia) since July 13, 2008



Aisen Nikolaev

Head of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Russia) since September 27, 2018



Mika Riipi

County Governor of the Regional Council of Lapland (Finland) since March 1, 2013

Chair of the Northern Forum

Chairmanship suspended from March 4, 2022



Vladimir Solodov

Governor of Kamchatka Krai (Russia) since September 21, 2020



Asthildur Sturludottir

Mayor of Akureyri Municipality (Iceland) since August 1, 2018

Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum

Member of the Board of Governors until November 28, 2022



Alexander Uss

Governor of Krasnoyarsk Krai (Russia) since September 21, 2018



Choi Moon-soon

Governor of Gangwon Province (Republic of Korea) from April 28, 2011 to June 2, 2022

Member of the Board of Governors until June 2, 2022

2.3. THE REGIONAL COORDINATORS COMMITTEE

The Regional Coordinators Committee is the main collegial body coordinating the ongoing activities of the Northern Forum.

As per the Bylaws and the Rules of Procedure, the Committee has to meet at least twice a year.

The Committee contributes to the timely preparation of meetings, the Governors Summit, provides significant support to project activities and the Northern Youth Forum. The members of the Committee are actively involved in the events of not only the Northern Forum, but also its partner organizations.

In 2022, the Regional Coordinators for the regions were as follows:

Sergey Vereshchagin

Deputy Chair of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai



Eduard Isakov

Representative of the Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra in the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Chair of the NF Working Group on Creative Industries Development



Viktor Kalashnikov

Deputy Chair of the Government of Khabarovsk Krai – Minister on Economic Development of Khabarovsk Krai

Member of the Regional Coordinators Committee until November 9, 2022



Gavril Kirillin

Minister for External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)



Dmitry Korostelev

**Vice-Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Kamchatka Krai,
President of Kamchatka Krai Chamber of Commerce**



Sergey Kungurtsev

**Chair of the International and Interregional Relations Committee of the
Department of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of
Nenets Autonomous Okrug
Vice-Chair of the Regional Coordinators Committee
Acting Chair of the Regional Coordinators Committee since March 4, 2022**



Alexander Mazharov

**Vice-Governor of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Director of External
Relations Department of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug**



Natalia Slugina

**Deputy Chief of the Governor's Office, Head of the Office for International
Cooperation and the Arctic of the Governor and Government Office of
Chukotka Autonomous Okrug**



Arja Haikara

Advisor to Lapland County Governor in Arctic Relations

Chair of the Regional Coordinators Committee

Chairmanship suspended from March 4, 2022



Hulda Sif Hermansdottir

Advisor to the Mayor of Akureyri

Vice-Chair of the Regional Coordinators Committee

Member of the Regional Coordinators Committee until November 28, 2022



2.4. THE SECRETARIAT

In 2022, the Secretariat operated as usual, despite extremely difficult working conditions. The Secretariat's continuous operation was primarily ensured by the timely payment of the membership dues.

Because of the revised action plans, the Secretariat held quite a lot of consultations and meetings at various levels, worked to expand the partnership network and to resume or establish communication with the Asian organizations and regions. The Secretariat staff took part in quite a lot of events.

Operating on the basis of the Northern Forum Academy, as in previous years, the Secretariat has 4 employees and an outsourced accountant.



Vladimir Vasilev
*Executive Director,
President, Northern
Forum Academy*



Daryana Maximova
*Deputy Executive
Director*



Khristina Filippova
Specialist



**Alexandra
Ponomareva**
Specialist

The Northern Forum Secretariat collaborates with a group of translators, but the main translators working at all events and providing translation services are individual entrepreneur Maria Krivtsova and a Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Modern Languages and International Studies of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University Sofya Kholmogorova.



2.5. THE NORTHERN FORUM GOODWILL AMBASSADORS



The NF Development Strategy until 2030 provides for the creation of the Institute of Goodwill Ambassadors of the Northern Forum. The Regulations on the Goodwill Ambassadors were approved by the Board of Governors at the 14th General Assembly. The status of the Goodwill Ambassador is assigned to enhance the efficiency of global promotion of the Northern Forum's goals and objectives. The main tasks include highlighting the activities of the organization aimed to promote and preserve the historical and cultural heritage of the Arctic and northern regions, facilitating environmental, educational, research and other activities, highlighting the problems of northern and Arctic regions, and tourism development.

In 2022, the number of the Goodwill Ambassadors grew to 13:



Amarzhargal Baljinnyam

President, Mongol-Sakha Cooperation Society; Chair of the Board, Film Director B. Baljinnyam Foundation; CEO, Unique Travel LLC; Board Member, Chinggis Film LLC; linguist



Anton Vasiliev

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation; Vice-President, Head of Commission for International Activities, Russian Association of Polar Explorers



Paolo Venturini

Police officer in Padova, Italy, an extreme ultramarathon runner. Paolo Venturini is a world-famous athlete to set several world ultramarathon records under the highest and lowest air temperatures and in the deserts, mountains and jungles of all continents.



Guo Peiqing

Professor, School of International Affairs and Public Administration of the Ocean University of China; Executive Director, Arctic Research Center, established by the Ministry of Education of the PRC



Vera Kondratieva

Member of the Public Chamber of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra, composer, musician; Chair, Public Organization of the Indigenous Peoples' Culture *Ma Makhem* (My Land); Chair, Lyantor Town Branch of *Saving Yugra* Public Organization, Surgut District



Alexander Kugaevsky

Vice-Rector for Analytical and Expert Activity, Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University, Candidate of Economics, Yakutsk, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia. Alexander Kugaevsky is one of the active contributors to the establishment of the Northern Sustainable Development Forum.



Georgy Nikonov

Advisor to the Head of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia). He was the Minister of External Relations, Permanent Representative of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in the Far Eastern Federal District.

Author of the idea, leader of *The Ways of Great Achievements* large historical project.



Alexander Pilyasov

Director General of the Regional Consulting Institute, Doctor of Geography, Professor at Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.

He is one of the top experts on the development of the Arctic and international cooperation. He has significantly contributed to the development of the NF Development Strategy.



Timo Rautajoki

Independent observer and expert, Rovaniemi, Lapland, Finland.

For a long time he was a President of Lapland Chamber of Commerce; he initiated the creation of the Network of the NF Chambers of Commerce; he is a founder of the international platform in Rovaniemi – the Arctic Business Forum.



Paul Fuhs

President, Chairman of the Board at Marine Exchange of Alaska, Member of the Arctic Economic Council commissions, Anchorage, Alaska, the USA.

He was the first Corporate Secretary Treasurer of the Northern Forum in 1991-1993.



Lassi Heininen

Professor, University of Lapland (Finland); Adjunct Professor, Trent University (Canada); Visiting Professor, University of Akureyri (Iceland); Member of the Advisory Board, Arctic Circle (Iceland); Editor-in-Chief, Arctic Yearbook.



Nadezhda Kharlampieva

Associate Professor, Global Politics Department, St. Petersburg State University; Senior Researcher, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute; PhD student at the University of Lapland (Finland); St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 2001-2005, she worked at the NF Associate Secretariat in St. Petersburg.



Alexander Shestakov

Director, WWF Global Arctic Program in 2010-2018; Director (D1), Department of Science, Society and Sustainable Future, Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biodiversity in Montreal (Canada) in 2018-2021; expert in environmental protection, biodiversity and sustainable development; Russia.

NOMINEES TO THE GOODWILL AMBASSADORS:



Yulia Zaika

Head of International Department, Federal Research Center Kola Science Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Yulia works with the IASC Secretariat. She has been on the ICARP IV Steering Committee since 2021.



Terry Callaghan

Professor of Arctic Ecology, Sheffield University (Great Britain); Professor Emeritus, Lund University (Sweden); Professor Emeritus, Oulu University (Finland); Doctor Honoris Causa, Professor Emeritus, Toms State University, Nobel Peace Prize Winner within IPPC.



Oran Young

Professor Emeritus, Co-director of the Program on Governance for Sustainable Development at the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA. He was the IASC Vice-President, Chair of the UArctic Board of Governors.



Yuri Zakharinsky

Member of Parliament, Deputy Head of the Natural Resources and Ecology Committee, Krasnoyarsk Krai Legislative Assembly. Senior Researcher, Siberian Federal University and Sukachev Forest Institute SD RAS. 2015–2018 — Chair of the NF Regional Coordinators Committee.

We work on inviting the experts to become the Goodwill Ambassadors on a regular basis, and the fact that all of them are enthusiastic to take on these public activities may prove the Northern Forum's high rating and the level of trust from the international expert community.

It would be good for each NF member region to nominate well-known statesmen, public figures, figures of culture, science, and sports to become the Goodwill Ambassadors.

2.6. THE NORTHERN YOUTH FORUM



The Northern Youth Forum is the NF youth wing.

The NYF goal is to promote youth interests and ideas at solving the tasks faced by the Northern Forum through the international youth cooperation.

In December 2021, the Regional Coordinators Committee resolved on the following Chairs, Regional Coordinators and Coordinators for the areas of activities of the Northern Youth Forum:



*Savina
Alexeeva*



*Alexandra
Ponomareva*

Chair – Savina Alexeeva, Head of Partnership and Accelerator Programs Department, Yakutia Venture Company.

Vice-Chair – Alexandra Ponomareva, Head of the Department for Arctic Cooperation, Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University International Office; Leading specialist at the Northern Forum Secretariat.



*Antonina
Vesnina*



*Jonathan
Wood*



*Yulia
Zaitseva*



*Sardana
Syromyatnikova*



*Evgenia
Titovskaya*

Regional Coordinators:

- Antonina Vesnina, 3rd year student of Volkov Nenets Technical College of Agriculture and Economics – Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Russia
- Jonathan Wood, LLM Candidate in Polar Law at the University of Akureyri – Akureyri, Iceland
- Yulia Zaitseva, Assistant to the Member of the 7th Convocation State Duma of the Russian Federal Assembly A. Sidorov in KHAMAO-Yugra on a permanent basis (with a place of employment in Surgut) – Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra
- Sardana Syromyatnikova, NEFU employee – Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

- Evgenia Titovskaya, Deputy Head of Department, Head of External Economic Activities and Export Support Unit of the External Relations and Science Department of the External Relations Department of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Russia



***Darya
Burnasheva***



***Irina
Dranaeva***



***Sardana
Zhendrinskaya***



***Ekaterina
Sofroneeva***



***Ivan
Khristoforov***

Coordinators for the areas of activities:

- Culture, Tourism and Territories Promotion - Associate Professor at the Folk Artistic Culture Chair of the Arctic State Institute of Culture and Arts
- Human Capital – Irina Dranaeva, Head of International and Interregional Cooperation Department of the Arctic State Agrotechnological University
- Volunteering and Internships - Sardana Zhendrinskaya – Head of International Department, International Committee of the Children of Asia Games
- Economy, Innovations and Entrepreneurship – Ekaterina Sofroneeva, PhD student, University of Vaasa (Finland), Member of the Eurasian Peoples' Assembly
- Ivan Khristoforov, Leading researcher at the Mammoth Fauna Recovery and Processing Lab of Yakutsk Scientific Center SD RAS, Leading researcher at the Engineering Geocryology Lab of the Permafrost Institute SD RAS

2.7. THE NORTHERN FORUM FOUNDATION



At the end of 2020, the Director of the Arctic Portal Halldor Johannsson suggested to establish the Northern Forum Foundation. Almost all international organizations face financial problems and the need for creating stable financial instruments to support their project activities and events and try to establish partnerships with the foundations and other development institutes.

At the 14th General Assembly, the Board of Governors supported the overall concept of the Foundation and proposed to finalize it, while in September 2021 the Regional Coordinators Committee approved the Foundation's registration in Akureyri.

In January 2022, the Foundation was registered and operates per the Icelandic Act No. 119/2019 on the non-profit organizations. The Arctic Portal kindly provides the Foundation with the office premises at Ráðhústorg 7, Akureyri, Iceland.



The complication of the international situation did not allow to complete the organizational procedures. In this regard, it becomes difficult to use the newly created organization to support the projects and events of the Northern Forum. The Foundation will operate outside the Russian Federation.

The Northern Forum is currently focused on working primarily within the Russian Federation. Accordingly, we will work to accumulate financial resources and create a relevant foundation to support social projects in the Russian Federation.

This initiative is being elaborated within the newly created Arctic Tourism Development Working Group as tourism projects are capital-intensive, but at the same time attractive for the regions' development.

Provided that such a foundation is established, there will be a real opportunity to restore the Call for Interregional Projects and revitalize and support the activities of all Working Groups, the Northern Youth Forum, and the Goodwill Ambassadors.

2.8. THE WORKING GROUPS

Project activities are coordinated by the Working Groups in the key areas of the organization's activities. 12 groups were created, the creation of the Arctic Tourism Development WG was also supported in 2022.

Previously, the Working Groups were formed as proposed by the regions and most of the WG members represented the government agencies. Based on the results of their activities audit, it was proposed to change the mechanism of their formation and to involve more experts. In December 2021, the Regional



Coordinators Committee resolved to divide the Groups into the active and inactive ones. In June 2022, it was proposed to create two expert level Working Groups.

ACTIVE WORKING GROUPS:

1. Education and Research

Chair – Feodosia Gabysheva, Chair of the Standing Committee on Science, Education, Mass Media, and Public Organizations of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen)



2. Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity

Chair – Sakhamin Afanasiev, Chair of the Standing Committee on Land Relations, Natural Resources and Ecology of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen)



3. Culture

Chair – Andrey Borisov, State Councilor of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)



4. Creative Industries

Chair – Eduard Isakov, Representative of the Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra in the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Regional Coordinator of the Northern Forum



5. Development of Interparliamentary Cooperation in the Arctic and the North

Chair – Viktor Gubarev, Deputy Chair of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen)



6. Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions

Chair – Igor Nikolaev, Head of the Center for Strategic Research of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

The WG Chair suggested to dissolve this WG and continue working within regional governance project activity.



INACTIVE WORKING GROUPS:

1. Housing in the Arctic
2. Transport in the North
3. Development of Energy in the North
4. Health in the North and Social Issues
5. Regional Adaptation to Climate Change
6. Business Cooperation in the North

A NEW WORKING GROUP (under formation):

Arctic Tourism Development

Chair – Tatiana Menshikova, Tourism Director at the Production Systems and Industrial Tourism Development Fund



NEW EXPERT WORKING GROUPS (under formation):

1. Transport and Logistics

Head – Alexander Vorotnikov, Deputy Director General, Project Office for Arctic Development



2. Assessment of the Population Quality of Life

Head – Lyudmila Borilo, Chief Academic Secretary, National Research Tomsk State University





AWARENESS RAISING AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Northern Forum Secretariat is making significant efforts to expand communications with the regions of Russia and Asian countries through its Goodwill Ambassadors and partners and by using the potential of educational and scientific organizations. Also, a significant amount of work to involve the regions of the Russian Federation is carried out with the active assistance of the member regions.

During the year, the Executive Director and his Deputy spoke at the events both in the member regions and at other places, as well as held meetings at various levels to promote the mission and activities of the Northern Forum.

3.1. MEETINGS WITH DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

In April, the NF Secretariat welcomed the delegation of the **Republic of India** made up of the Consul General of the Republic of India in Vladivostok Seviti Sai Murali, Vice-Consul of the Consulate General of India in Vladivostok Ajay Kumar Thakur, businessman Krishan Goyal Kumar and interpreter Maria Moshkina.



The meeting was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister – Permanent Representative of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in the Far Eastern Federal District Kim Borisov, attaché of the Representative Office of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sergey Tarasov,

specialist of the Ministry for External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Nikolay Savvin, and the staff of the NF Secretariat.

During the meeting, a number of issues were discussed regarding the prospects for mutual cooperation, in particular, the possibility of involving northern regions of India in the Northern Forum activities.

The Northern Forum Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev introduced the Consul General to the Northern Forum activities, the planned expansion of geography through advanced interaction with the regions of Asia and the plan of the upcoming key events.

In turn, the Consul General identified the areas where India could be interested in cooperation with the northern and Arctic regions, such as climate change, energetics, IT, public health. India has various exchange programs for advanced training and internships, which could be useful for the NF member regions. The General Consulate suggested to assist in ensuring the participation of young IT specialists in the Youth Startup Forum held on June 8-9 in Khanty-Mansyisk.

The parties expressed hope for further effective cooperation and readiness for close communication to establish and develop effective interaction between the Arctic Council observers: India, as an observer country, and the Northern Forum, as an observer organization.

On June 24, the delegation of the **Republic of Vietnam**, represented by the Consul General of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Vladivostok Nguyen Dang Hien, the Consul's spouse Nguyen Thu Kiun, the Consul for Cultural Affairs, Vu Ngoc Tien, accompanied by the specialist of the Ministry of External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of Yakutia Ustena Illarionova, visited the Northern Forum Secretariat.

At the meeting, the Northern Forum Deputy Executive Director Daryana Maximova introduced the delegation of the Republic of Vietnam to the Northern Forum structure and activities, highlighting the interest in cooperating with the regions of Asia due to the organization's membership expansion. The meeting participants also got acquainted with the structure of the newly established Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research.

In turn, the Consul General of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Vladivostok Nguyen Dang Hien noted the importance of Russia-Vietnam relations of many years and their productive development in the economic, educational and cultural domains. The Consul General also expressed Vietnam's interest in climate change issues, mentioning the participation in many international forums.



On June 24, the Northern Forum Deputy Executive Director Daryana Maximova also met with **the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Irkutsk Kim Se-woong** during his visit to the North-Eastern Federal University.

The parties discussed the priority areas of cooperation and academic exchange with Korean universities within the framework of the newly created Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research.

The Republic of Korea is interested and ready to increase cooperation. "The pandemic has greatly affected Russian-Korean relations in general. Despite external circumstances, the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea held many joint events. We are interested in cooperating in the areas of the countries' common interest. For us, scientific research in the Arctic and natural sciences are of great interest," said Mr Kim Se-woong.

The delegation of the Consulate General of the Peoples' Republic of China in Khabarovsk, headed by the Consul General Cui Guojie, visited Yakutia on June 27.

The Northern Forum Deputy Executive Director Daryana Maximova attended the meeting at the North-Eastern Federal University. The meeting discussed the plans of involving Chinese regions in the Northern Forum, the participation of China in the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok in September, as well as in the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum in Yakutsk. One of the key topics for discussion at the meeting was the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research, the declaration on the establishment of which was signed on June 11, 2022 at the initiative of NEFU in cooperation with the

Northern Forum. Russian scientific and educational institutions conducting the Arctic studies and the Ocean University of China gave their consent to join the Consortium.

The Consul General expressed his readiness to assist in involving the Chinese regions in the Northern Forum and Chinese universities in the Consortium, as well to participate in the events organized by the Northern Forum and NEFU.



In July, the Executive Director of the Northern Forum visited Mongolia and had a meeting with the Head of the Department of Neighboring Countries of the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Radnaabazar Altangerel, who expressed his support for the NF activities and the readiness of the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to raise the Mongolian regions' awareness of interregional cooperation opportunities within the Northern Forum. The parties discussed a wide range of issues that could be implemented in practice as Mongolian regions raise their awareness of the Northern Forum and agreed to organize online meetings with the governors as well as their participation in the Northern Sustainable Development Forum. The Mongolian party expressed interest in discussing the energy issues, which is the key theme of the NSDF. The meeting was organized directly by the Northern Forum Goodwill Ambassador, President of Mongol-Sakha Cooperation Society Amarzhangal Baljinnyam. The specialist of the Department Mr Chinbayar also attended the meeting.

3.2. WORKING IN THE REGIONS



The Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug Natalia Komarova passed the baton of the *Garden of Friendship Action* to Mongolia, represented by the Goodwill Ambassador Amarzhargal Baljinnyam and her spouse, CEO of the travel agency Byambajav Nyamhu.

In November, the Northern Forum Executive Director met with the Head of St. Petersburg Committee on Arctic Affairs German Shirokov. The meeting was organized by Yuri Kravtsov, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) to the President of the Russian Federation, and was also attended by Elena Aseeva, First Deputy Chair of the Committee, and Sergey Nikolaev, Head of the Department for Cooperation with the Arctic.

German Shirokov confirmed St. Petersburg's interest in engaging in the NF activities and noted that the process could be facilitated if recommended by the supervising federal executive authority.

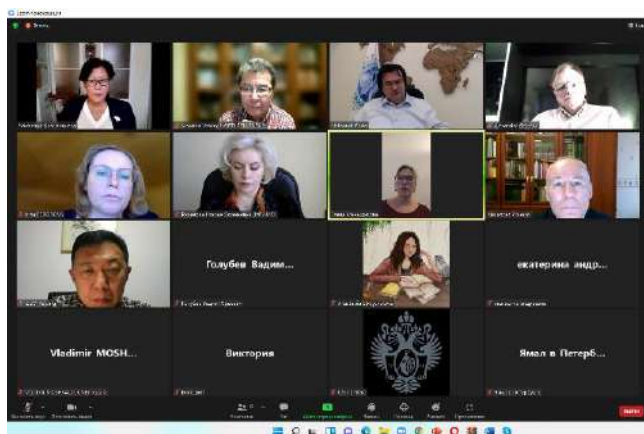


In 2021-2022, active cooperation with Tomsk State University began. The Northern Forum signed a cooperation agreement with SecNet network of Tomsk State University and the University's Academic Secretary Lyudmila Borilo agreed to lead the NF Expert Group on the Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions. The University has become active in the newly established Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research. The Northern Forum Secretariat has sent an invitation to join our organization to the Acting Governor of Tomsk Oblast Vladimir Mazur.

Following the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum, the Deputy Chair of the International Relations Committee of the Department of International and Regional Relations of Tomsk Oblast Administration Olga Shulgova informed us that Tomsk Oblast had started to actively prepare to join the Northern Forum.

3.3. CONTRIBUTION OF THE GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

The creation of the Goodwill Ambassadors Institute has proven to be a timely measure and an effective tool for promoting the Northern Forum mission and attracting attention to the organization's activities. There is no doubt that a lot depends on the proactive attitude of the Ambassadors themselves, but it should be noted that most of the invited experts were greatly inspired and enthusiastic about their public position, and provide effective assistance to the best of their ability.



Active work of the NF Goodwill Ambassador, Professor of the Ocean University of China **Guo Peiqing** with the leadership of Shandong Province resulted in their growing interest in cooperating with the Northern Forum. The annual Russia-China Academic Meeting, organized by St. Petersburg State University and the Ocean University of China, has also contributed to that. It should be noted that the meeting's coordinator for Russia is another NF Goodwill Ambassador, Associate Professor of the Global Politics Department of St. Petersburg State University, Senior Researcher at the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute Nadezhda Kharlampieva.

Video-presentation of the NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev at the World Estuarine Cities Conference for Cooperation and Development in Shandong, organized through the Representative Office of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) at the Russian Trade Mission in the PRC, kindled the participants' interest and was acknowledged in the letter of gratitude from the Office of Foreign Affairs of Shandong Peoples' Government.

Shandong Province is ready to discuss its membership in the Northern Forum if it becomes a leader of the Chinese regions. The consultations will be continued in 2023.

A lot of representatives of China attended the 4th NSDF online, which offers hope for a dynamic development of cooperation.

Throughout the year, Professor Guo was actively involved in the meeting of the Regional Coordinators Committee, the 4th NSDF, Arctic Telemedicine International Conference (Naryan-Mar), engaging experts from China.

During the year, **Nadezhda Kharlampieva** organized a number of events, where she highlighted the NF activities:



15.04.2022. Session *Arctic Culture and Art in the Intercultural and Sociolinguistic Space* within the 10th Conference with international participation *Intercultural Dialogue in the Modern World*, moderator Nadezhda Kharlampieva. Organizers: St. Petersburg State University, School of International Relations, International Humanitarian Cooperation Department; St. Petersburg Association of International Cultural Cooperation.

29.09.2022 Session *Sociolinguistic Space of the Arctic* within the 4th International Research to Practice Conference *Synergy of Languages and Cultures: Interdisciplinary Research*, moderators Nadezhda Kharlampieva, Nadezhda Tyrkheeva. Organizers: St. Petersburg State University, School of Foreign Languages, Global Politics Department; Arctic State Institute of Culture and Arts; Arctic Project Office of St. Petersburg State University.



21-22.10.2022. Saint Petersburg State University platform. Organizer: Universitywide Department. 11th Russian-Chinese Academic Meeting *Russia-China Cooperation in the Arctic: New Dimensions and Approach*, Head Professor Guo Peiqing, Ocean University of China (Qingdao).

23.10.2021. Presentation at the Session *Culturology and Philosophy of Culture* of the Scientist Club of the Russian Academy of Sciences about the Northern Forum project – popular science journal *Arctic Culture and Art*.

Nadezhda Kharlampieva attracted a lot of participants from St. Petersburg to the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum.

The NF Goodwill Ambassador, a police officer from Padova (Italy), extreme ultramarathon runner and multiple world-record holder **Paolo Venturini** actively speaks at the Northern Forum events, proposing a number of NF actions in the countries of North America, Europe and Asia and promoting the ideas of the Northern Forum with different media.

In January-February he had a number of productive meetings with the leadership of his region and almost succeeded in considering its membership in the Northern Forum, but the change in the international situation didn't allow this issue to follow its logical end.

In November he had an extreme run in the Indian Province of Ladakh at 5600 m of height, with the Northern Forum logo on his gear.



La nomina

Durante la sua permanenza in Jacuzia, Venturini ha avuto occasione di conoscere molte importanti personalità del panorama politico della Repubblica, e la risonanza della sua impresa è stata tale che è stato nominato [Goodwill ambassador](#) del Northern Forum per essere stato l'atleta con la maggiore escursione termica al mondo.

Invitato in Russia nel settembre 2021 con autorizzazione della Farnesina e del Viminale proprio in qualità di rappresentante per l'Italia. Il riconoscimento istituzionale è stato ampio, visto che per la prima volta in 30 anni un italiano è stato posto a capo di progetti mirati alla salvaguardia dell'ambiente nordico e artico, con programmi indirizzati ai giovani, in particolare alle popolazioni native delle regioni artiche.



One of the most active Goodwill Ambassadors is the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation, Vice-President of the Russian Polar Explorers Association **Anton Vasiliev**. He makes an important contribution to the development of the Northern Forum by attracting high-rank attention and actively engaging in analytics and consulting. At the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum, he successfully moderated a *Global Partnership for Sustainable Development*

session and was one of the most active participants of the NF Working Groups' Strategic Session and the Meeting of the NF Goodwill Ambassadors, as well as gave a very interesting interview for the Arctic YouTube Channel of the Northern Youth Forum.



The NF Goodwill Ambassador, Director General of the Regional Consulting Institute, Lomonosov MSU Professor **Alexander Pilyasov** is one of the NF veterans, engaged in its activities from the very beginning. So, it was absolutely logical for him to initiate and prepare for publication the first book dedicated to the Northern Forum history – *Born to Unite*, becoming the author of its major part.

The book's first edition was released at the very end of the year and was fully funded by the Regional Consulting Institute, for which we are sincerely grateful to Mr Pilyasov.



Alexander Pilyasov is also a co-author of the new Northern Forum Development Strategy, a participant and speaker of many events and an active promoter of the regional cooperation ideas within the Northern Forum.



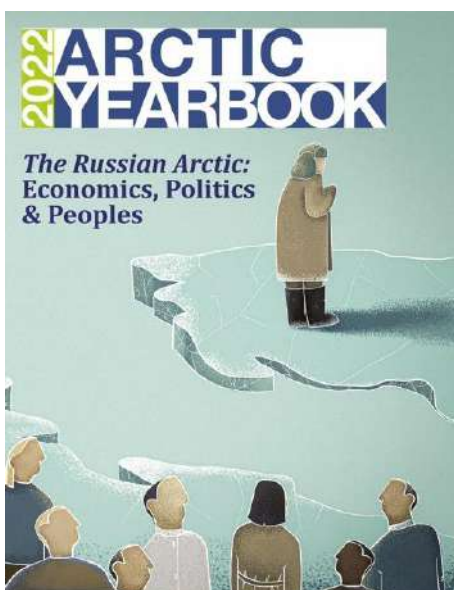
The Northern Forum is actively supported by the Goodwill Ambassador from Mongolia **Amarzhargal Baljinnyam**. We have already mentioned her assistance in organizing a meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and her involvement in the *Garden of Friendship* project.

Ms Baljinnyam organized a visit of the NF Executive Director to Mongolia, which frameworked not only visits to the cultural and historical sites but also to the venues suitable for arranging various events. In addition to the meeting at the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, meetings were organized with the representative of the Commission for UNESCO and the CEOs of large travel companies.

At the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum, Amarzhargal organized the Days of Mongolian Cinema and was actively involved in the Strategic Session of the Working Groups and the Meeting of Goodwill Ambassadors.



The NF Goodwill Ambassador, Vice-Rector for Analytical and Expert Activity of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University **Alexander Kugaevsky** continues his active work on preparing and holding the NF sessions on sustainable development. He was one of the architects and active organizers of the newly established Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research.



Lassi Heininen, Heather Exner-Pirot and Justin Barnes.

The Goodwill Ambassador from Finland **Lassi Heininen** is the Editor-in-Chief of the Arctic Yearbook. At the end of the year 2022, he published another issue dedicated to the Russian Arctic, in spite of a tense geopolitical situation and a serious pressure on many sides.

He took significant action to promote the Northern Forum sessions at the Arctic Circle International Forum, but, unfortunately, a tough stand of the Organizing Committee and Iceland as a whole didn't allow to organize the sessions in 2022. At all previous forums, the Northern Forum was an active participant and always arranged its sessions on different topics.



Lassi significantly contributed to the discussions at the Goodwill Ambassadors Meeting within the 4th NSDF and is committed to continue working on supporting interregional cooperation.



The Goodwill Ambassador from Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra **Vera Kondratieva** is a member of the NF Creative Industries Working Group. As the Ambassador, she took part in the discussion at the session of the Creative Business Forum *North-South: Ethnocultural Heritage as a Resource for Sustainable Development*. She told about the conditions required for preserving the traditions and development of economies of the indigenous peoples as well as shared Yugra experience. As part of Yugra delegation, she actively participated in the Eastern Economic Forum. At all arrangements, Vera Kondratieva always presents herself as the NF Goodwill Ambassador, attracting attention to the organization and support of interregional cooperation.

Thanks to the grant of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra Governor for the development of place marketing and branding of the Okrug of Yugra Department of Public and External Relations, a trip to the Faroe Islands was arranged, where a videoclip was shot and a musical album *Timint Areh* (Such a song) was recorded, based on the Khanty and Mansi songs and melodies. The album entered the top of the Russian World Music Chart.



Thus, we should acknowledge the invaluable contribution of our Goodwill Ambassadors. This initiative has fully proven its mission. There is no doubt that work in this direction will be continued. A team of high-rank reputable professionals from different countries can become one of the most effective mechanisms for expanding the geography and supporting the international level of the organization's activities.

3.4. 3RD NORTHERN FORUM GOVERNORS SUMMIT

On November 28, the 3rd Northern Forum Governors Summit adopted the Declaration and Resolution # 239, per which the NF Short and Midterm Development Concept and a **new membership class – associate member** – were approved, which would allow to actively involve the regions of the friendly countries, irrelevant of the northern territories' features. The Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra Natalia Komarova prioritized project activity development and membership expansion for the region's chairmanship in the NF.



3.5. PRESENTATION OF THE SAKHA REPUBLIC (YAKUTIA) IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF RUSSIA

On December 7, the Russian MFA Cultural Center hosted the presentation of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Yakut ASSR, which frameworked the meeting of the Head of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Aisen Nikolaev with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov, where the possibilities for the NF support and expansion of membership were discussed. Minister Lavrov assured of full support and commitment to send the Russian MFA recommendations to the heads of the regions of the Arctic zone, Siberia and the Far East.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia has consistently supported the activities of the Northern Forum. Previously, such recommendations were twice sent to the regions and always ensured the organization's strengthening. As part of Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council, the Northern Forum also actively contributes to the implementation of all the plans.

We are confident that these measures will shortly allow to considerably expand the NF membership, raise its international status and ensure full implementation of all provisions of the Development Strategy and Concept.



3.6. PUBLISHING A BOOK ABOUT THE NORTHERN FORUM HISTORY

Various options for a printed publication were discussed to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Northern Forum (a photo album, a collection of memoirs, a series of brochures), but the initiative of the Director General of the Regional Consulting Institute, Goodwill Ambassador of the Northern Forum, one of the veterans and active participants of the organization's activities since its very foundation, Professor Alexander Pilyasov, seemed the most practical one.

He suggested that a small team of authors publish a book covering all periods of the Northern Forum development, focusing on the main idea of creating such an organization, thus making a theoretical basis for further progress.

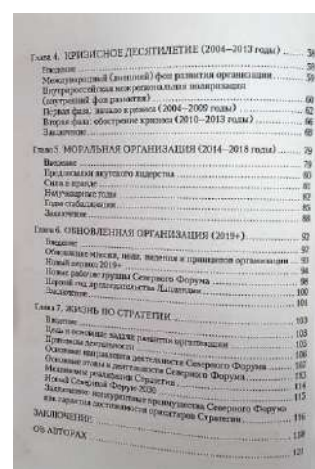
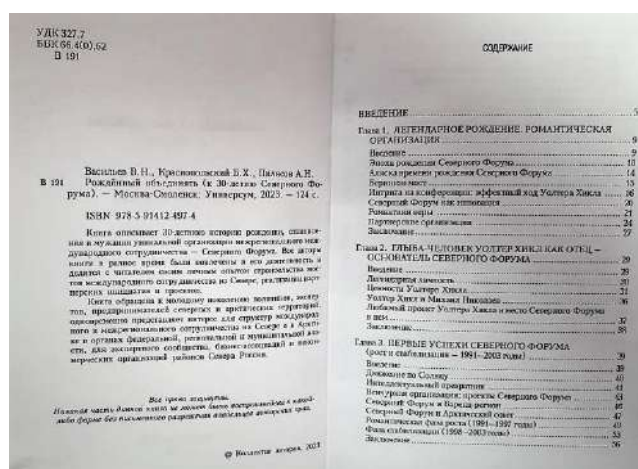
Preparing a photo album or a book of memoirs requires considerable efforts to collect materials, and it was not possible to collect really interesting publications that would satisfy everyone in a short time. Therefore, these ideas have been postponed indefinitely, but the collection of photographic materials is underway and the book might be followed by a photo album.

But even preparing a book without illustrations took long as it required to analyze multiple documents and publications, and comprehend each period of the organization's development.

Mr Pilyasov engaged Boris Krasnopolsky – one of the NF veterans, who had closely communicated with the NF founder, Governor of Alaska Walter Hickel, now a chief researcher at the Institute for Economic Research of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Doctor of Economics, to prepare the publication, as well as the current NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev.

The first edition of the *Born to Unite* book was published at the end of December 2022, being funded by the Regional Consulting Institute. An English version is planned to be published as additional funds are raised.

The book will render invaluable assistance in promoting the mission of the Northern Forum, raising awareness and expanding the network of partners, developing project activities and supporting regional cooperation.



3.7. DIAMOND THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHERN FORUM

An important event took place on December 21 at a joint meeting of the Collegium and the Public Council of the Ministry for External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) - the Northern Forum was awarded a certificate of giving a name *The 30th Anniversary of the Northern Forum* to the fact of extracting a diamond of 68,39 carats, mined on 03.07. 2021 at Yubileinaya pipe deposit, and a replica of this diamond.

This is a recognition of the Northern Forum's successful activities, of all those who have contributed to the development of international and interregional cooperation in the Arctic and the North. Thousands of people have been involved in the work of the Northern Forum and still continue to work towards achieving all the sustainable development goals at the regional level.



3.7. COVERAGE OF THE NORTHERN FORUM ACTIVITIES

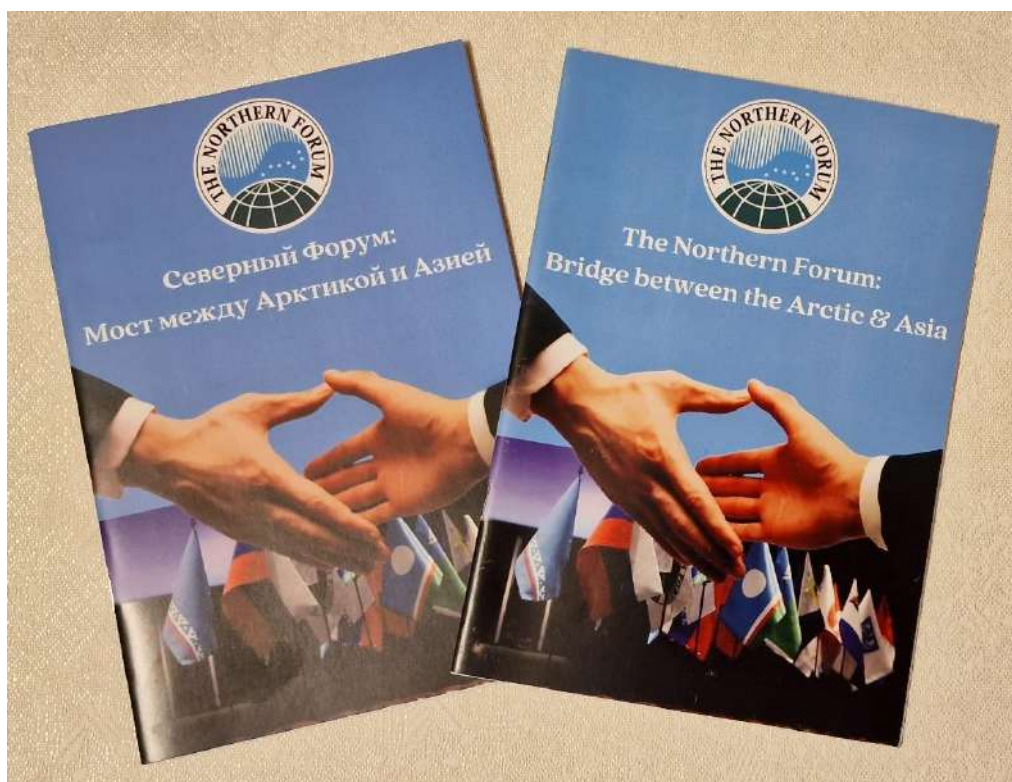
With the assistance of the Arctic Portal, the NF permanent website (www.northernforum.org) is maintained, which requires constant improvement. The organization is actively reforming its structure, expanding its geography and collaborative network, multiple events are held. The website mostly provides general information about the nature of our activities, the structure, the decisions made, our events, etc.

Regular news is posted in Telegram and VKontakte. Due to the restrictions put by the Russian Federation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, almost no materials were posted there during the year, although the NF accounts had been quite popular.

There is also a website of the Northern Sustainable Development Forum (www.nsdf.ru). The recordings of many NSDF sessions and events are posted on the Northern Forum YouTube channel. The Northern Youth Forum also has social network accounts and has created the Arctic Channel on YouTube.

The NF Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director give regular interviews and comments for various media, both regional, federal and international. In particular, the NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev took part in the joint ESG podcast of RusBonds portal and Interfax Disclosure Center. The program was hosted by Lyubov Levayeva, editor of Carbon Free Telegram channel. The podcast is dedicated to the ESG agenda in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and the NF activities in this area.

During the year, media and content plans were developed to cover the activities of the Northern Forum. It is planned to strengthen efforts in this direction, involving the capacities of the heads of regions, Regional Coordinators, Goodwill Ambassadors, Working Groups, and partners.





MAJOR EVENTS

4. MAJOR EVENTS

4.1. MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COORDINATORS COMMITTEE

Khanty-Mansyisk, Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra, June 6-7, 2022

The Meeting took place amid a deep crisis in the international cooperation, but still aroused considerable interest. The interest was primarily connected with the new approaches and decisions that the Northern Forum is ready to make in the new realities. Like throughout its entire history, the Northern Forum was almost the first to put forward the organization's priorities and prospects for a fairly long period.



The agenda of the Meeting included the NF Short and Midterm Development Concept, changes in the Action Plan, adjustments to the organizational structure, amount of membership dues, approval of the Governors Summit theme, activities of the Northern Forum Foundation and the Working Groups, as well as approval of the NF Goodwill Ambassadors.

The participants of the Meeting, represented by the Regional Coordinators, the NF Secretariat staff, the Goodwill Ambassadors, Chairs and members of the Working Groups, partners, and project managers discussed and put forward their proposals on the NF current issues.

The Regional Coordinators supported the draft NF Development Concept, aimed to expand the geography and establish effective North-South bridges, as well as invite the regions of the world to

become the member regions or the associate member regions of the Northern Forum. It was proposed to submit the document for approval of the 3rd Governors Summit.



The proposal on switching to settlements in rubles for the regions and business partners from the Russian Federation was also supported, as well as the introduction of a new membership class - associate members of the Northern Forum.

Badges and certificates were presented to the newly elected Goodwill Ambassadors of the Northern Forum who attended the meeting in person: Anton Vasiliev, Amarzhargal Baljinnyam, Nadezhda Kharlampieva.



Discussing the activities of the NF Working Groups was one of the main topics on the agenda, as well as the possibility of coordinating project activities through the interaction of the NF Working Groups and business partners.

The RCC Meeting frameworked the session of the Creative Industries Working Group chaired by Eduard Isakov, Senator of the Russian Federation, Representative in the Council of Federation from the executive authority of Khanty-Mansyisk AO – Yugra.



Several directions for future work were outlined by the results of the Working Groups' sessions:

- enhance the WG activities through developing project initiatives and taking part in grant competitions;
- specify and supplement the WG membership, including Chukotka's proposal on the establishment of the Tourism WG;
- include the new initiatives of the member regions in the list of the NF priority projects.



The event hosted a round table discussion of the Project Office for Arctic Development, focused on supplying of canned food to the Russian Arctic regions. The experts discussed food security in the current international situation, as well as the advanced developments for goods' delivery to the north and food production technologies for the Arctic zone.

The Meeting's participants took part in the International IT Forum with the participation of the SCO and BRICS representatives, where the latest achievements in this industry were demonstrated and the prospects for cooperation between the Arctic and northern regions and the regions of the southern

countries were discussed, which fully meets the goals and objectives of the NF Development Concept proposed at the RCC meeting.



Yugra Governor Natalia Komarova showcased the *IT Nomad Camp* project, and the indigenous community directly communicated the Forum from their reindeer herd.

The Forum frameworked the meeting of Governor Komarova with the representatives of the diplomatic missions of the BRICS, SCO, Africa, and Latin America countries, where the NF Executive Director was also invited to briefly speak about the cooperation opportunities with the world's southern regions.



Tree planting within the *Garden of Friendship* Project was one of the interesting events proposed by Khanty-Mansyisk AO-Yugra. The project annually involves different regions of Russia and the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The Meeting's participants were glad to join the campaign.

The Department of Public and External Relations and Youth of Yugra:

Fifty trees were planted in Khanty-Mansyisk by the representatives of the diplomatic corps of the BRICS and SCO countries, participants of the IT Forum, the UNESCO conference, and the Northern Forum international organization as part of the Garden of Friendship international campaign. Representatives of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug, Kuzbass, Thailand, India, Serbia, and Zambia took part in the action.

22 municipalities of the Autonomous Okrug joined the event, which was held as part of the 13th International IT Forum and the 19th Save and Preserve International Environmental Campaign, online.

The event was timed to the World Environment Day and held under the auspices of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO and the International Organization of Northern Regions "The Northern Forum".



As part of the campaign, the participants planted 500 trees in the Okrug, including 50 seedlings of lilac and apple trees that now adorn the territory around Yugra-Expo Convention and Exhibition Center.

The Garden of Friendship international tree planting campaign is included in the action plan of the Eurasian Association of Women - Regional Leaders. The initiative belongs to Irina Novikova, the Chair of the Coordinating Council of Russian Compatriots in the Asian region, the regional head of the Russian-speaking businesswomen alliance.

"I am very grateful to the Governor of Yugra Natalia Komarova, for the warm welcome of our project. As a sign of friendship, we will give several tropical plants to Yugra," said Irina Novikova, addressing the action's participants from Thailand.

In Yugra, Governor Natalia Komarova took over from Thailand, emphasizing that the environmental initiative has become a "green bridge between the peoples of the planet".

"In Khanty-Mansyisk, the action has convened the representatives of the BRICS and SCO diplomatic missions, the participants in the IT forum, the UNESCO conference, and the Northern Forum. They are implementing very important projects around the world" – said the Governor. "Khanty, Mansi, and Nenets indigenous peoples live on the land of Yugra. Their culture, attitude to nature, and wisdom are the basis of the life of our region, its heart and soul. Khanty proverb says: "People standing on the same land, people living on the same land are like cedars and pines in the same forest". We all share this idea. I am sure that our action will become another brick in shaping the attitude of the planet's peoples to their land".

At the end of the event, Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug passed the environmental baton to the participants from Mongolia and the Northern Forum. The certificate from the Governor of Yugra Natalia Komarova was accepted by Amarzhargal Baljinnyam, the Chair of the Mongol-Sakha Cooperation Society.

"I hope that our campaign will contribute to shaping ecological culture of care for nature. The gardens created in every municipality of our region and in the countries involved in the international campaign will remind of it" - said the Governor of Yugra.

<https://admhmao.ru/press-center/vse-novosti/yugra-prinyala-estafetu-mezhdunarodnoy-aktsii-sad-druzhby-/>



4.2. THE REGIONAL COORDINATORS CONSULTATIVE MEETING

Vladivostok, September 7, 2022

The Regional Coordinators, who arrived in Vladivostok as part of their regions' delegations, had a consultative meeting to discuss the current issues at the Eastern Economic Forum. The main issues on the agenda included the options for holding the 3rd Governors Summit within the current calendar year, as well as the situation with the chairmanship in the context of Lapland's suspended cooperation.



The meeting convened the following Regional Coordinators: Gavril Kirillin (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Dmitry Korostelev (Kamchatka Krai), Sergey Kungurtsev (Nenets Autonomous Okrug), representatives of Krasnoyarsk Krai (Anton Narchuganov) and Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug-Yugra (Elena Shumakova), as well as the NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev, his Deputy Daryana Maximova, and the Arctic Portal Director Halldor Johannsson.

The Summit was supposed to be held within the *Arctic - Territory of Dialogue* International Forum in St. Petersburg, which was canceled. In May, approval was obtained to hold the Summit at the Eastern Economic Forum, but it was not included in the agenda due to its tightness and a tight schedule of the regions' heads.

Having discussed all options, the Regional Coordinators came up with a unanimous opinion on the need of holding the Summit before the end of this year. The Secretariat was suggested considering Moscow in December as a venue.

Note: The 3rd Governors Summit was held in Yakutsk as part of the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum.

Since Lapland had suspended its chairmanship from March 4 and gave up its intention to run for a second term, the Meeting's participants discussed the issue of the next chairing region.

The Minister for External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Gavril Kirillin said that the republic was always ready to support the Northern Forum and, should other regions not want to chair the organization, was always ready to assume the chairmanship.

The Director of the Department of Public and External Relations and Youth of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra Elena Shumakova stated the Okrug was ready to chair the Northern Forum in 2023-2025, highlighting the positive experience of Yugra's chairmanship in 2005-2009.

After discussing both proposals, the Meeting's participants unanimously supported the statement of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra.



The participants of the Meeting expressed their sincere gratitude to the Minister for External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Gavril Kirillin for the opportunity to hold the event in the Pavilion of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and highly rated its display.



4.3. 4TH NORTHERN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Yakutsk, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), November 28 – December 1, 2022



The Northern Sustainable Development Forum (hereinafter referred to as the Forum) is a permanent annual international expert platform, established in 2019 to discuss the problems and prospects for sustainable development of the North and the Arctic.

The Forum is included in the Program of Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council.

Initially, the Forum was scheduled for the usual dates - September 27-30, but in the context of increased tension in the international situation, the Organizing Committee decided to postpone the event to a later date, November 28-December 1, 2022.

We were glad that, despite the postponement, the Forum's agenda didn't change fundamentally, and the organizers of almost all events agreed on the new dates. Three events took place as scheduled previously because it was difficult for most speakers to change the planned attendance.

A number of participants, knowing about the postponement of the Forum, still arrived in Yakutsk in September for specific negotiations. Thus, we can say that the Forum lasted almost from September to mid-December.

THE MAIN THEME OF THE FORUM - 2022: ENERGY OF THE ARCTIC: NEW CHALLENGES – NEW SOLUTIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Climate change, reduction of ice sheet and shifted freeze-up dates in the Arctic Ocean open up a lot of opportunities not only for the development of the previously inaccessible hydrocarbon deposits in the sea, but also for the active development of terrestrial territories. The issues of energy supply for the existing and planned settlements, industrial, transport and other facilities of an extensive infrastructure network are of greatest importance for ensuring the territories' sustainable development. At the same time, special emphasis will be placed on clean energy, widespread use of renewable sources, sustainable mining, responsible approach of business to preserving and restoring the natural ecosystems, as well as careful attitude to the cultural heritage and traditions of indigenous peoples, as well as support for traditional nature use.

The Forum discussed the following: What should ESG transformation in the Arctic be like, how realistic are the forecasts for the Arctic? Is successful transformation possible in a single company or region, or is it better to combine efforts? What types of energy will be most in demand in the Arctic? How to ensure and increase the resilience of the Arctic? How to save the energy of people and attract young people to the Arctic? What partnerships are possible in the context of the global remaking in the world order for progressive movement towards the Sustainable Development Goals in the Arctic?

Main organizers

- The Northern Forum
- Government of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University

General Partner: TASS News Agency

Special Partner: Interregional Scientific, Technological, Business and Educational Partnership Sustainable Development of the Russian Arctic

Official Partners:

- JSCB Almazergienbank JSC, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- North Research and Education Center, Yakutsk – Moscow
- Nord Power LLC – Urdel Activity Park, Yakutsk, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Svetocultura Research and Production Center LLC (GALAD Green Line), Moscow
- Slavneft Oil and Gas Company PJSC, Moscow
- Burlak Offroad, Kurgan, Kurgan Oblast

Operator of the Forum: Yakutia Congress Center

General information

- Total events - 51
- Total hybrid events (offline/online) - 50
- Total registered participants - 1 200 people
- Total guests in person in Yakutsk - 125 people
- Total foreign guests in person in Yakutsk - 11 people
- Total guests from other Russian regions - 114 people
- Views at www.nsdf.ru - 1 717 views
- Views on YouTube - 1 796 views
- Northern Forum member regions - 7 regions
- Venues in Yakutsk - 19
- Live broadcasts in Russian - 50
- Live broadcasts in English - 20
- Interpreters - 12 people

– Number of countries watching online broadcasts: 16 countries, including the polar countries (USA, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Russia) and the countries of the North-East Asia (China, South Korea and Japan), as well as the Netherlands, Germany, Great Britain, Ukraine, Turkey, Belarus, India, and Kazakhstan.



**СЕВЕРНЫЙ ФОРУМ
ПО УСТОЙЧИВОМУ РАЗВИТИЮ**
28 НОЯБРЯ - 1 ДЕКАБРЯ 2022 ЯКУТСК

1200 зарегистрированных участников

125 гостей из 7 стран

51 мероприятие, 12 переводчиков, 40 волонтеров

19 площадок на базе Северо-Восточного федерального университета

1717 просмотров из 16 стран на сайте Форума

1796 просмотров из 16 стран на канале Северного Форума в Youtube

ТАСС о форуме: <https://tass.ru/severnoy-forum-po-ustoychivomu-razvitiyu>

ОФИЦИАЛЬНЫЕ ПАРТНЕРЫ

АЭБ GALAD Северный форум ЯСЭНБ УрАЭЛ БУРЛАК



This Report features the Northern Forum events. The full NSDF 2022 report is available at www.nsdf.ru

The General Partner – TASS News Agency – has a dedicated section on its official website: <https://tass.ru/severnnyy-forum-po-ustoychivomu-razvitiyu>

There were hundreds of various media and Internet publications about the Forum's work.

A VISIT OF THE FORUM'S PARTICIPANTS IN SEPTEMBER

The following delegation visited Yakutsk in September: Viktor Semenov, technical expert of the International Union of Veterans of Nuclear Energy and Industry (IUVNEI), expert of the Project Office for Arctic Development; Gennady Vechkanov, Deputy Chair of ARKTUR Consortium for Revival of the Regional and Local Airlines (Communications); Valerian Tochilo, Area Manager, Basis of the Future Fund. They are ready to help Yakutia with creating a comprehensive infrastructure for the local air lines, including analysis, management, power generation, air fleet renewal, and training.

With the support of the Northern Forum Secretariat, the delegation had a meeting with the executives of several ministries and agencies, and Ammosov NEFU.



There was a working lunch with Mr Wang Wen, Executive Dean of Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies (RDCY), Deputy Dean and Distinguished Professor of Silk Road School, Renmin University of China, and Global Times observer. We had an interesting discussion about the current international situation and possible development scenarios and the areas where the Northern Forum could cooperate with the regions of China. Mr Wang Wen is a well-known publicist and analyst. In the last 15 years, he has been publishing 2 best-seller books a year. Mr Wang Wen is ready to assist with promoting the Northern Forum ideas in China.

During his visit, Mr Wang Wen had an open lecture on the Chinese carbon neutrality strategy and Russia-China cooperation at the North-Eastern Federal University.



Also, Vladimir Lobyntsev, Head of Laboratory of Kurchatov Nuclear Transport Energy Technologies Complex of Kurchatov Institute visited Yakutia twice before the NSDF. He had productive meetings with the Chair of Yakutia's Government Andrey Tarasenko, Minister of Housing and Utilities and Energy Vyacheslav Emelyanov, Minister of Transport and Road Facilities Vladimir Sivtsev, representatives of Yakutsk Scientific Center SD RAS, Larionov Institute of Physical and Technical Problems of the North, and the executives of the North-Eastern Federal University. The pressing issues of nuclear energy development prospects in Yakutia were discussed at the meetings. During his second visit, Mr Lobyntsev and his colleagues investigated all settlements of Bulun District for possible construction of low-capacity nuclear power stations. Thus, practical work on the main theme of the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum has begun. Should the project be implemented, it will result in real benefits.



In addition, Vladimir Lobyntsev had an open lecture *Low-capacity nuclear power stations for northern regions. Innovative unmanned low-capacity nuclear power station Elena* at the North-Eastern Federal University, where he told the audience about the work of Kurchatov Institute, the technologies and methods of using nuclear energy as a high-performance electricity supply.

Director General of Physics of Heat LLC Felix Borisov and Head of the Utilities and Energy Department of Magadan Oblast Irina Kokoshko visited Yakutsk in September as well.

On one of the days, all the guests gathered at the Secretariat: nuclear scientists, power engineers, representatives of the aviation consortium, and the educational projects foundation. We signed two protocols with a specific action plan for joint work.



Sergey Kungurtsev, Vice-Chair of the Regional Coordinators Committee, Chair of the International and Interregional Relations Committee of Nenets Autonomous Okrug, worked in the NF Secretariat for two days. We thrashed out the arrangements to implement the NF Development Concept, the matters of the Governors Summit, the possibility of establishing communication with the Barents Regional Council, where Nenets Autonomous Okrug is the Chair. Mr Kungurtsev's open lecture was organized at the North-Eastern Federal University, where he spoke about the international interregional cooperation in the Arctic.



The Northern Forum Secretariat was visited by Sergey Pogodin, Director of the Graduate School of International Relations of Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University. At the meeting, the prospects for further cooperation between the Northern Forum and representatives of the University within the newly created Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research were discussed. Mr Pogodin also held an open lecture at the North-Eastern Federal University, where he spoke about the social and political systems of the countries of Northern Europe.

EVENTS WITHIN THE FORUM

ROUNDTABLE

PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR THE EXTREMELY COLD CLIMATE. PPP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF VEHICLES' EXPERTISE AND TESTINGS IN THE REGIONS. ARCTIC BUS PROJECT

According to the moderator, Chair of the Commission for Promoting Project Activity in Science and Technology of Yakutia's Chamber of Commerce, CEO of ArcticSpetsMash LLC – a servicing company of Yakutia Technopark, Executive Secretary of the Supreme Engineering Council of Yakutia Alexander Myarin, the roundtable was held as a side event of the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum as part of the CityBus Expo of the Russian Urban Mobility Week.

The roundtable was also arranged online in Moscow and Yakutsk and involved experts from St. Petersburg and Norilsk. There was an earnest dialogue on the production and operation of public wheeled transport (crew change buses, swamp and snow-going buses) for the residents of remote areas.

The topic was discussed at the previous NSDF meetings, when online displays *Motor and Offroad Vehicles* and *Wheeled Swamp and Snow-going Vehicles and Permafrost Degradation* were organized.

The side event held on September 23, 2022 discussed the following issues:

- Revival and development of the state support programs for: – Russian mechanical engineers for developing northern and Arctic versions; – northern transport workers for subsidizing a natural rise in price of the northern versions of wheeled transport;
- Principal differences of wheeled transport for extremely cold areas from the technical solutions for a “normal” cold climate;
- Revival and development of the Russian Economic Development Ministry's competition for supporting the establishment and development of regional centers (branches) for certification, testing, and technical expertise for the extremely cold climate;
- Revival and development of climatic tests infrastructure as well as creation of technical expertise infrastructure at the local level, playing a key role is securing of wheeled public transportation in the extremely cold climate;

- Prospects for using the preferences, stipulated by the FL-258 dated 31.07.2020 *On the regulatory sandboxes in digital innovations in Russia*, including the PPP, at the production and pilot operation of technics for the extremely cold climate.



After listening to the presentations, during their discussions the participants agreed on the need for active cooperation of not only the transport but of all technics in the extremely cold climate, with a focus on the quality of the specific climatic version.

The topic of public transport in the extremely cold climate requires further discussions at the NSDF.

ROUNDTABLE

RUSSIA-INDIA COLLABORATION IN THE ARCTIC: INTERESTS AND OPPORTUNITIES





On September 28, 2022 the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) in cooperation with Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University and the Northern Forum, held a roundtable scheduled within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum.

Andrey Kortunov, RIAC Director General, delivered welcoming remarks, stressing the need to avoid great powers' confrontation in the Arctic and find the ways to develop the region. Nikolay Korchunov, Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, opened the discussion with the comprehensive analysis of the Russian position in the Arctic.

The agenda of the roundtable covered such areas as Russia's and India's interests and strategic approaches in the Arctic, prospective joint projects in energy and transport, as well as sustainable development of the region and collaboration in science. The list of participants included both polar researchers and international relations and world economy experts, which allowed discussing these matters from various positions.

Vijay Sakhuja, Director, School of Integrated Coastal and Maritime Security Studies, Rashtriya Raksha University, Alexander Makarov, Director, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, Lydia Kulik, Head of India Studies, SKOLKOVO Institute for Emerging Markets, Research Fellow, Center for Indian Studies, RAS Institute of Oriental Studies, Amit Bhandari, Senior Fellow for Energy, Investment and Connectivity, Gateway House, Thamban Meloth, Director In-Charge, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, K.P. Krishnan, Head of Arctic Operations, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, Kumar Rajan, Associate Professor, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Elsa Shirgazina and Gleb Makarevich, both Junior Research Fellows, Group on South Asia and Indian Ocean, Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations, RAS, spoke at the roundtable.

Daryana Maximova, Deputy Executive Director, Northern Forum Secretariat, and Acting Head, Department of International Studies of the North-Eastern Federal University, also took part in the event and described the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research.

Ksenia Kuzmina, RIAC Deputy Director of Programs, moderated the discussion.

Source: <https://nsdf.ru/blog/2022/10/03/эксперты-обсудили-российско-индийск/>

SOCIOLINGUISTIC SPACE OF THE ARCTIC SESSION WITHIN THE 4TH RESEARCH TO PRACTICE CONFERENCE SYNERGY OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES: INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

On September, 29 a *Sociolinguistic Space of the Arctic Session* within the 4th International Research to Practice Conference *Synergy of Languages and Cultures: Interdisciplinary Research* was organized. Moderators: Northern Forum Goodwill Ambassador Nadezhda Kharlampieva, Nadezhda Tyrkheyeva. Organizers: St. Petersburg State University, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Global Politics Department of St. Petersburg State University, Arctic State Institute of Culture and Art, Arctic Project Office of St. Petersburg State University.

The session was included as a side event of the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum. The issues of changing the modern sociolinguistic space of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic at the national, international, regional and global levels were discussed.

FORUM EVENTS

PLENARY SESSION

ENERGY OF THE ARCTIC: NEW CHALLENGES – NEW SOLUTIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES

The 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum 2022 started with the plenary session *Energy of the Arctic: New Challenges – New Solutions and Technologies*.



There were the following speakers at the plenary: Natalia Komarova, Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra; Dmitry Artyukhov, Governor of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug; Aisen Nikolaev, Head of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia); Sergey Ivanov, Director, Ioffe Physical-Technical Institute RAS; Victor Khaikov, President, Chairman of the Board, National Association of Oil and Gas Service; Nikolay Korchunov, Ambassador-at-Large, Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chair, Senior Arctic Officials Committee, Arctic Council; Xiaoyang Jiang, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Khabarovsk; Yun Seek Kim, Chair, Shingdong Enercom Inc., Honorary Chairman, Federation of Northern Economy under the Government of the Republic of Korea.

Greetings to the Forum participants were sent by the Deputy Chair of the Government of the Russian Federation – Presidential Envoy in the Far Eastern Federal District Yuri Trutnev and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

The issues of efficient production and use of energy, mining and transportation of mineral resources in the Arctic and the Far East, low-carbon energy, as well as personnel training for the high latitudes were the key topics of discussion.



According to the speakers, interregional cooperation and strengthening of scientific and technical potential are the main directions for the development of energy in the world. Challenges become the starting point for finding new solutions and sharing experiences.

Ambassador-at-Large of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials Committee Nikolay Korchunov stressed that the Program of Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council is focused on improving the well-being of northerners, including indigenous peoples, and promoting the socio-economic development of the Arctic territories.



The plenary session finished with signing of the agreement on the establishment of the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research, which already has 13 members - representatives of educational institutions in Russia and China. The Consortium is an association of scientific, educational, research, vocational and other institutions of the Russian Federation and Asian countries.



Source: <https://nsdf.ru/blog/2022/11/28/сфур-2022-начало/>

3RD NORTHERN FORUM GOVERNORS SUMMIT

The Summit became one of the Forum's key events and was met with great interest. Its agenda was brief but intensive.



The heads of the regions were informed about the organization's current situation and presented with the Northern Forum Development Strategy for the next few years as well as with the proposals on ensuring the financial stability.



Having noted the successful work of the Secretariat in the difficult conditions, the Head of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Aisen Nikolaev highlighted that the republic will continue to actively assist the Secretariat. Mr Nikolaev greatly emphasized the need to preserve the core of the Northern Forum as the organization promoting the development of interregional cooperation, and supported the establishment of effective collaboration with the regions located in the south. Yakutia is engaged in the largest projects of our time, such as the Northern Sea Route and climate change.

Understanding the importance of economic projects, the Head of Yakutia shared his opinion that the republic can significantly contribute to the development of sociocultural initiatives, creative industry, and support of the indigenous peoples. He mentioned such projects as the *Arctic Children* and *Digitalization of the Linguistic and Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic* as the examples.



The Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra Natalia Komarova said the region was ready to chair the NF in 2023-2025 and outlined the priority areas Yugra will be focused on, if supported.

All participants acknowledge that climate change issues are on the top of the global agenda, and therefore the Governor's information that an international center for the assessment and verification of carbon units and a regional monitoring system for greenhouse gas flows will be created in Yugra through close cooperation between the authorities, academia, and business aroused particular interest. She urged to strengthen cooperation on climate change and implement joint projects within the *Save and Preserve Action*, which has been held under the auspices of the Northern Forum since 2007.

Yugra is ready to offer an exchange of experience in culture and preservation of languages, as well as to share solutions for a digital divide. Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug is a leader in Russia in creating conditions for the development of public and non-profit organizations. Governor Komarova noted the region's readiness to introduce the developed solutions into the Call for Projects, resuming and expanding the geography of the grant competition, as well as to open it for the projects on the regions' sustainable development, which is especially important as it was decided to introduce an associate membership for the world's southern regions.



The co-Chair of the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research, Rector of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University Anatoly Nikolaev, the NF Goodwill Ambassador, RF Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Anton Vasiliev and the Arctic Portal Director Halldor Johannsson (Iceland) also spoke at the Summit, making specific proposals for the organization's further development.

The Summit resulted in the Declaration supporting the chairmanship of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra in the Northern Forum in 2023-2025 and approving the NF Short and Midterm Development Concept, as well as in the Resolution # 239 on the transfer of the NF member regions from the Russian Federation to settlements in rubles and the introduction of an associate membership.

Thus, the 3rd Governors Summit demonstrated the Russian regions' firm position on the preservation and further development of the Northern Forum as well as set the course for the coming years and provided the basis for the organization's continued improvement and strengthening.

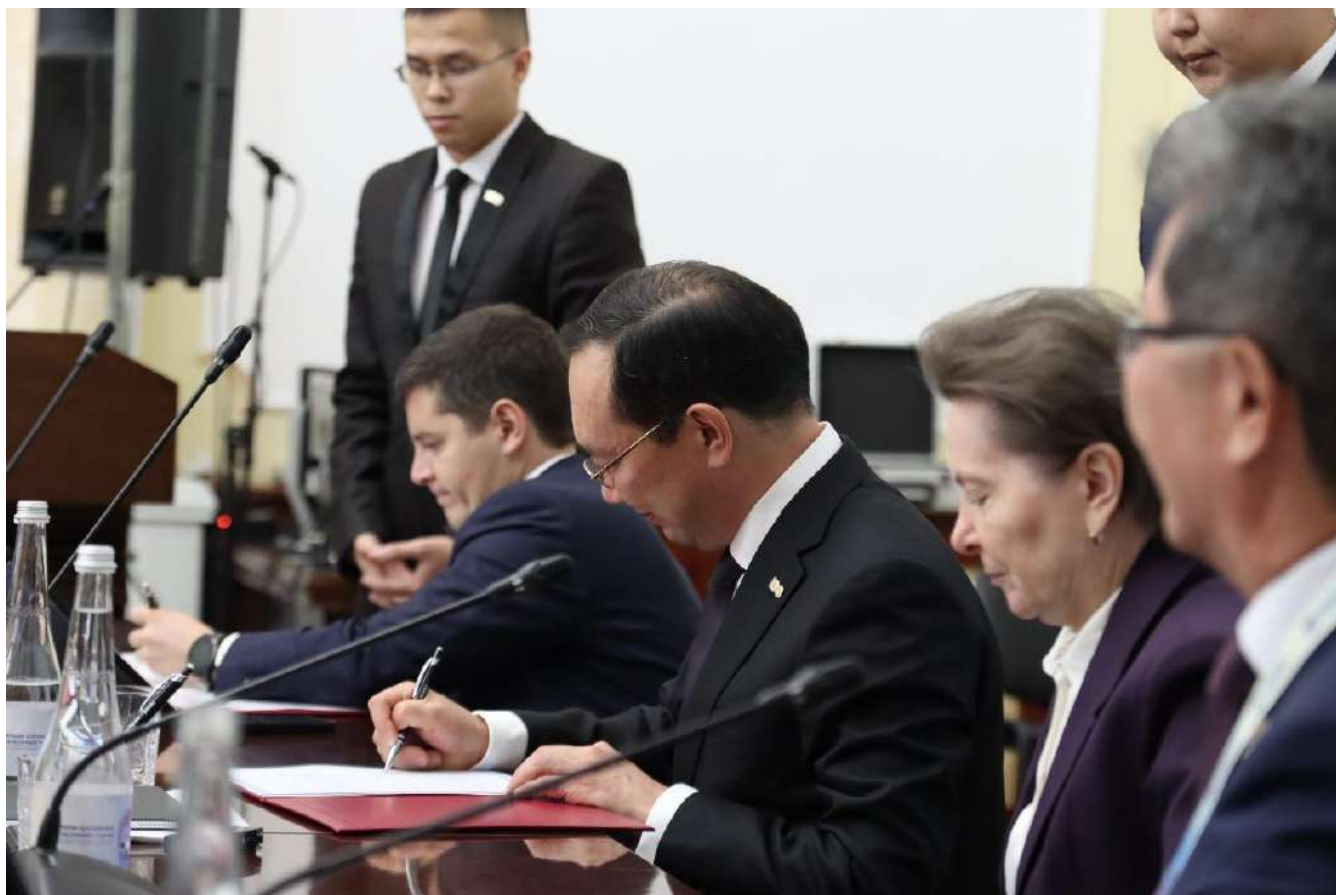


Photo: NEFU Press Service

STRATEGIC SESSION OF THE NORTHERN FORUM WORKING GROUPS

The session was initiated to discuss new formats and mechanisms for implementing project activities, which is a key area of interregional cooperation, and establishing effective interaction with partners.

There is a lot of work to be done to define the clear goals and priorities for the organization in the near future and to expand the areas of activity.

The current international situation does not allow to implement full-fledged international projects between the countries and regions of the Arctic. Interaction at the expert level is possible. At the same time, the Northern Forum Working Groups are formed from the member regions' representatives, mostly employed by the state institutions and structures of regional administrations and governments, which becomes a serious obstacle to implementing international projects. There is a need to discuss the Working Groups' formation criteria.

There was a lively, motivated and open conversation between the leaders and members of the Working Groups, involving the Regional Coordinators, Goodwill Ambassadors and partners.

The participants of the session tried to answer the following questions: Should we form an international working group of independent experts and a traditional working group for the activities within the Russian Federation in the same area? Or should we switch only to expert working groups in all areas? How should project activities be carried out in such conditions? What projects can be most in demand in a rapidly changing environment? Should we focus on long-term or short-term projects? How to ensure sustainable funding for projects?



In general, the participants of the session agreed on the need to revise the mechanisms for the Working Groups' formation and to use the adaptable working methods. They supported the proposal of the Yugra Governor Natalia Komarova to resume the Call for Projects, with its focus being made on the interregional nature of the supported projects.

It was proposed to establish project activities abroad through the Northern Forum Foundation created in Iceland, to engage leading experts outside the NF regions in the Working Groups, minimizing the involvement of government officials.

ROUNDTABLE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE ARCTIC: BALANCING BETWEEN ECOLOGY AND INVESTMENT

At the initiative of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, the Northern Forum Arctic Tourism Working Group is to be created; to form a team and discuss the priority areas of interaction, this roundtable was held within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum.

The following issues were discussed:

- Monitoring of tourism development as a balance between ecology in the Arctic;
- Fundraising and control over the environmental situation in the Arctic;
- State support for the development of tourism in the Russian Arctic;
- A role of national projects in the development of tourist infrastructure in the Arctic;
- Projects of children's tourism development in the Arctic;
- Personnel training and quality standards in the tourist industry;
- Lean tourism in the Arctic as a way of shaping the industrial culture.



The topic of Arctic tourism turned out to be of great interest. At the same time, the lack of coordinated work hinders the uniform development of this industry in all Arctic regions. In this regard, the creation of the Northern Forum Working Group was welcomed and most participants expressed their wish to work within the WG.

The lack of time did not allow all the speakers to take the floor, and it was proposed to continue active discussions and to hold events on all aspects of the Arctic tourism development in 2023.

A wide range of issues was discussed; the speakers did not just state facts, but proposed specific measures to address certain issues that would make the basis for the future joint activities' plans.

It should be noted that the roundtable achieved all its goals as, following the Forum, we began to actively work on forming the Working Group, drawing up action plans, and collecting project proposals.

The Secretariat is sincerely grateful to the WG leader, Tatiana Menshikova, Tourism Director at the Production Systems and Industrial Tourism Development Fund, for organizing this highly efficient roundtable and active start of the WG formation.

MEETING OF THE GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

The first meeting of the Goodwill Ambassadors was very intensive; it was held as an open conversation and discussed many aspects of interregional cooperation in the new geopolitical conditions. The discussion convened such NF Goodwill Ambassadors as Anton Vasiliev, Georgy Nikonov, Amarzghal Baljinnyam, Nadezhda Kharlampieva, Paolo Venturini, Lassi Heininen, and Alexander Pilyasov.



To maintain the NF international status and ensure the involvement of the regions and representatives of all Arctic countries in its activities, there is a need to discuss further improvement of the NF organizational and operational structure, bearing in mind possible change in the status of the current components and the introduction of the new ones, as well as in the level of state agencies' engagement without prejudice to the main directions organization's activities.

In accordance with the new Development Concept, the opening of the NF membership to the regions of more southerly countries, which do not necessarily possess the characteristics of northern regions, has been announced, with full or associate membership being granted to them. What could the geographical boundaries of the NF functioning be? What benefits can the southern regions' involvement bring to all parties? Is membership in the Northern Forum possible for the municipalities and even individuals? What is the role of the Board of Governors and the Regional Coordinators Committee in the context of severe restrictions for the state structures' engagement in the international activities? How to use the potential of the Northern Forum Academy, Goodwill Ambassadors, Working Groups, the Northern Youth Forum? These and other issues were discussed at this meeting to ensure the consistent and progressive development of the Northern Forum.

All the proposals made at the meeting will be used in the current practical activities and will have a significant impact on the development of the organization, attracting the huge potential of our Goodwill Ambassadors.

OFFICIAL PARTNERS



JSCB Almazergienbank JSC, Yakutsk

Chair of the Management Board – Nikolay Dolgunov

www.albank.ru



Svetocultura Research and Production Center, Moscow

Director General – Vyacheslav Terekhov

<https://npcsvet.ru>



North: Sustainable Development Territory Research and Education Center, Moscow, Yakutsk

Head of Interregional Project Center – Evgeny Kolganov

<https://nocsever.com>



Slavneft Oil and Gas Company PJSC, Moscow

Director General – Mikhail Osipov

<https://www.slavneft.ru>



Urdel Activity Park, Yakutsk

Director – Alexey Vasiliev



Burlak Offroad, Kurgan

Director General – Vladimir Ufimtsev

<https://burlakoffroad.com>

SOME PRACTICAL OUTCOMES OF THE NSDF 2022

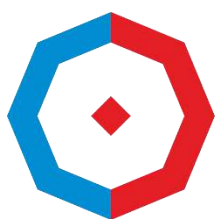
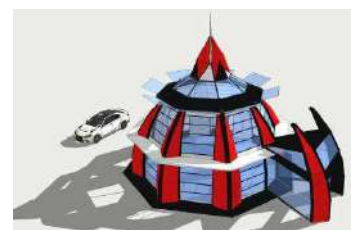
Unlike previous forums, the NSDF 2022 has had a number of long-term practical outcomes, beneficial to the involved organizations and regions, that will positively affect the improvement of the Forum's level and quality.



NSDF Official Partner, Burlak Offroad LLC, is planning project activities with Polymer Materials NEFU Youth Lab to produce specialized non-freezing mechanical rubber goods for Burlak offroad vehicle. Safe exploration and socio-economic development of the Arctic requires adapting all technical facilities to the climatic characteristics of the Arctic. From this point of view, specific requirements are set for the mechanical rubber goods within the machines. The rubbers have to withstand extremely low temperatures of -55 and more degrees, preserving all their operational parameters. The

youth lab plans to develop a non-freezing rubber formula and send a pilot lot of rubber goods.

Teplorium LLC and the NSDF Official Partner Urdel Activity Park (Yakutsk) start cooperating in constructing the light wood-frame modular buildings that can be used to develop tourism, establish research or rotation camps, or be used by the indigenous tribal communities, etc. The buildings don't require heavy assembly/disassembly machinery, can be easily relocated and assembled in various modifications.



ARCTIC STARTUP EXPEDITION

The Northern Youth Forum is launching a project of the Arctic Startup Expedition.

The NF Education and Research WG organized a *Personnel for the Arctic* Roundtable and plans to work in this area.

The Northern Forum and the NSDF Official Partner JSCB Almazergienbank have started consultations on developing the projects on the sustainable development in the Arctic.

The Ministry of Emergencies of Russia and RAIPON have supported the establishment of their permanent platforms at the next NSDFs.

FULL REPORT ON ALL EVENTS OF THE 4TH NORTHERN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FORUM, AS WELL AS THE RECORDINGS OF THE BROADCASTS, MATERIALS AND PHOTO ARCHIVE ARE AVAILABLE AT

WWW.NSDF.RU

THE RECORDINGS OF CERTAIN EVENTS CAN BE WATCHED ON THE NF YOUTUBE CHANNEL.



NORTHERN YOUTH FORUM

NORTHERN YOUTH FORUM

In 2022, the Northern Youth Forum worked based on the event and project activities.

5.1. EVENT ACTIVITIES:



On April 15, 2022, the Northern Youth Forum opened its office at the office of the Northern Forum Secretariat in Yakutsk.

On June 9, 2022, the Arctic Youth Startup Forum was held in a hybrid format (online and offline). Offline events were held in Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug as part of the Northern Forum Regional Coordinators Committee and the 13th International IT Forum with the participation of the BRICS and SCO countries. The event was organized by the Northern Youth Forum, the Northern Forum, the Innovation Development Fund and the North-Eastern

Federal University. Its program included panel sessions, round tables, educational events, and project pitching.



As part of the Youth Startup Forum, an educational track for startups and a presentation of young entrepreneurs' projects were arranged. In addition, the participants of the event summed up the results of the *Practice of the Future* project school of the Junior-IT Forum for children and youth, the results of the *Data Campus: Technopreneurship in IT* regional thematic program, as well as the results of the demo-Olympiad in IT Projects Profile of the National Technological Olympiad.



On November 29-30, the NYF team, in collaboration with their partners from Kyndykan Production Group and Yakutia's Innovation Development Fund arranged a *youth platform of the Northern Sustainable Development Forum*:

- Panel discussion *Digitalization, Innovation and Technopreneurship in the North and the Arctic* - in a dialogue with the Forum's participants, the speakers discussed federal and regional approaches to the development of innovation and technology, the importance of a personal example for young indigenous peoples of the North, and the successful cases.
- Public talk with the leaders of the northern youth *Cultural Code in Creative Industries and its Integration into the Global Context* showed the openness of the young to the implementation of creative projects, the great importance of collaboration and the importance of maintaining a balance in preserving and promoting the cultural code.
- Strategic Session *What the North Needs?* demonstrated the need for a closer contact with Generation Z. The results of the session were submitted to the NF Secretariat.

A Model Northern Forum – modelling of the NF activities – was held on November 26 and 30, 2022 in a hybrid format as part of the NSDF. The event was organized by the Northern Forum, Northern Youth Forum, External Relations Department of Yamal-Nenets AO, Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University, International Institute of Energy Policy and Diplomacy of MGIMO University, MGIMO Arctic Student Research Club, and Intersphere Public Organization. Innovation development in the Arctic and the North was the key issue of this year's agenda.



The Model NF was managed by Ekaterina Vinzhego, Chair of the MGIMO Arctic Student Research Club.

The following structures were modelled at the event:

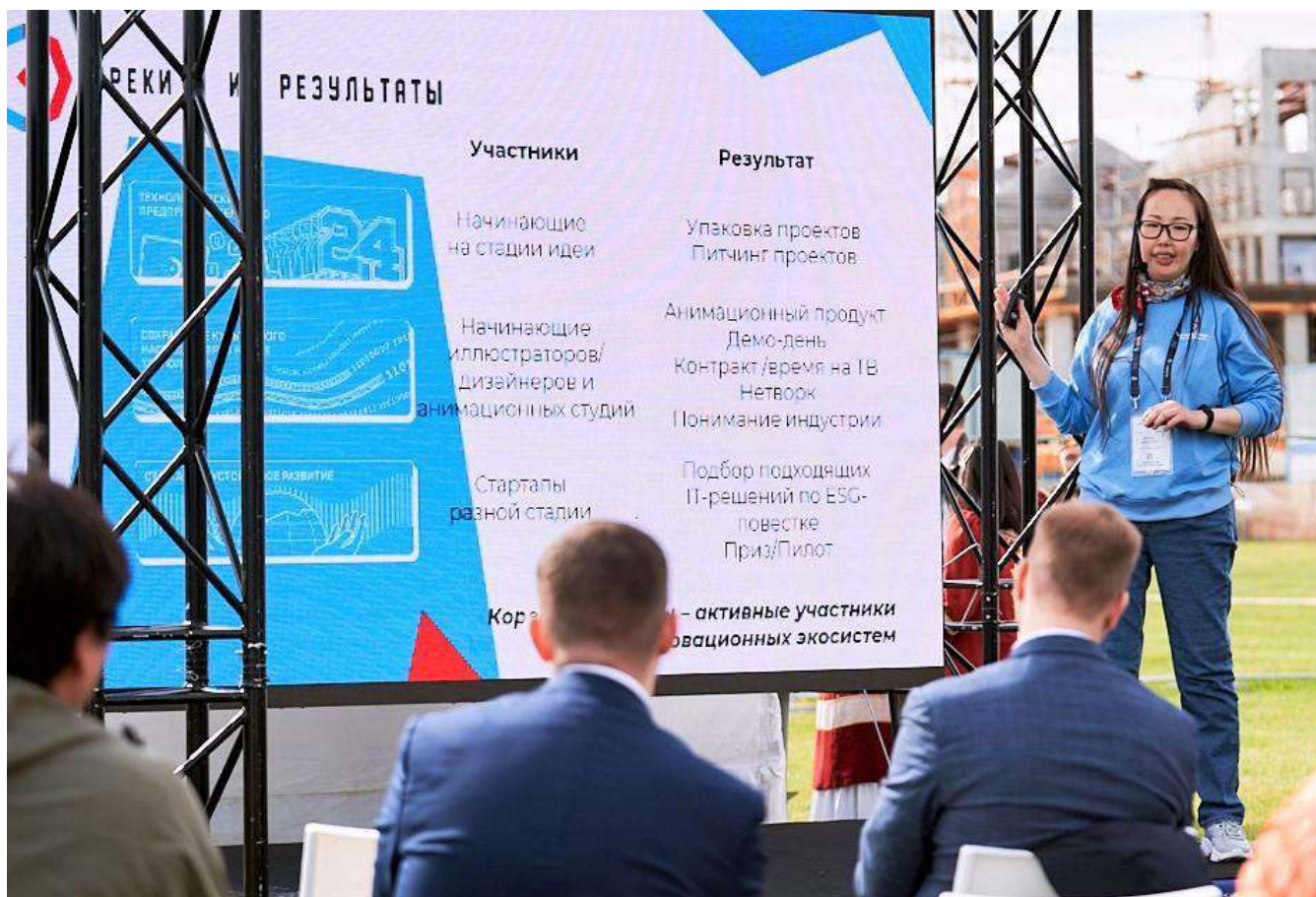
- Business Cooperation in the North WG – November 26 (online)
- Board of Governors – November 30 (hybrid format)

The Declaration of the Board Governors was submitted to the NF Secretariat following the Model NF.

5.2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

Arctic Startup Expedition

The Arctic startup expedition is a large-scale program to support and develop human capital with a focus on the North and the Arctic. At the same time, the program is open not only to the Arctic and northern territories. It is organized by the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), the Innovation Development Fund of Yakutia and the Northern Youth Forum with the support of the Northern Forum and other partners of the expedition.



The Arctic startup expedition started on May 25, 2022. Savina Alexeeva, Chair of the NYF and Program Director of the Arctic Startup Expedition, presented the Expedition at the 10th Startup Village Skolkovo Technology Conference in Moscow.

The expedition program consists of three tracks: Technopreneurship, Preservation of Cultural Heritage Through New Technologies and Startups and Sustainable Development.

The first track was organized as a University accelerator. The track was led by Anisia Lazareva, Director of Ammosov NEFU OREH Student Business Incubator. It convened 348 people from different regions of Russia.

The second track – Preservation of Cultural Heritage Through New Technologies – was held as an animation course. The track was directed by Daria Basharina, an expert in brand management and marketing communications. 94 applications were received from 9 regions of Russia (mostly northern), as well as from Serbia. 70 students completed the course, of which 20 students made it to the final and were admitted to the Demo Day on November 25, 2022. The results of the Demo-day were as follows: 1st place - Northern Myths (Rostov-on-Don, Rostov Oblast); 2nd place - Kharyskhal Talisman (Yakutsk, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)); 3rd place - A-Siya (St. Petersburg).

The third track was arranged as project scouting. The projects' database is currently being formed.

On December 8, 2022, the NYF Chair Savina Alexeeva presented the opportunities for the development of northern and Arctic youth through the tools of the Arctic Startup Expedition at the 12th *Arctic: Today and the Future* International Forum in St. Petersburg.



In 2023, it is planned to continue the Arctic Startup Expedition.

Arctic Information and Education Channel

In 2022, the Coordinator of the Northern Youth Forum Sardaana Syromyatnikova won a grant from the Russian Cultural Initiatives Foundation to implement an educational project on creating the Arctic Studio.

The project will raise public awareness of the issues of preserving cultural heritage and show the rich history and culture of northern peoples. Popular science is an important factor in the educational broadcasts. In addition, the project is designed to systematize and tell the audience about the most pressing issues of the development of the North and the Arctic in a popular visual form.



The Arctic information and education channel was launched at the end of December 2022: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSuOcZm-W2H1niEU1CDTrzQ>

In addition to the above, in 2022 the NYF signed two cooperation agreements:

- MGIMO Arctic Student Research Club;
- Institute of Humanities and Indigenous Peoples of the North SD RAS.



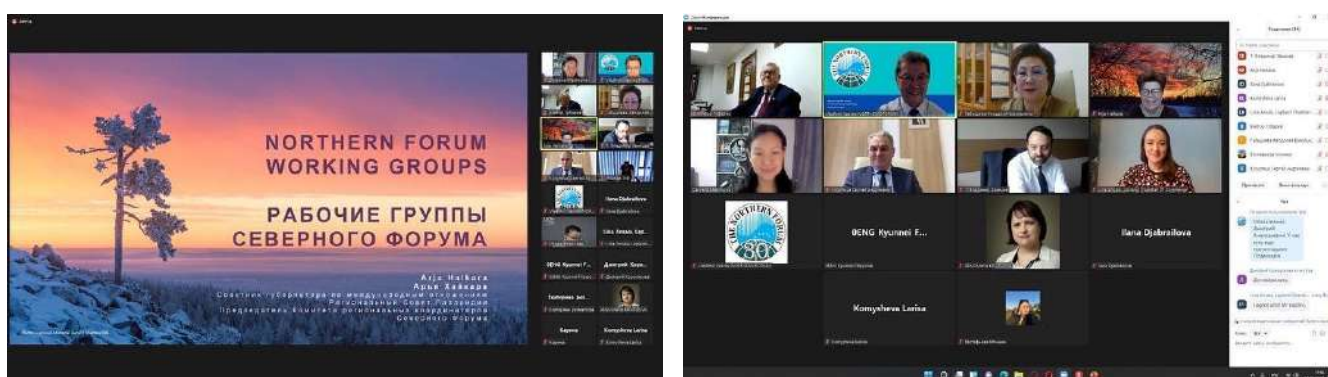
PROJECT ACTIVITIES

6.1. WORKING GROUPS

In the past year, the Secretariat made a number of attempts to activate the Working Groups, although the main efforts were directed at reorganizing the activities of the Northern Forum as a whole, in the face of a sharp deterioration in the international situation and the suspension of almost all cooperation in the Arctic.

Nevertheless, certain work has been done and the future project activities are being outlined.

At the beginning of the year, together with the Chairing region - Lapland – we started comprehensive work to streamline the Working Groups based on the previous analysis. A meeting was organized with the leaders and members of the Working Groups from different regions, a large section on the project activities was included in the action plan, in particular, on creating the Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Business Partners, the Association of Cities and Settlements of the Alaska-Siberia Air Route, the resumption of activities of the Construction WG, and on a number of projects.



Unfortunately, all these works had to be postponed as we had to urgently switchd to the elaboration of the Development Concept for the coming years and the restructuring of the organization.

The start of a special military operation in Ukraine halted agreements with the foreign partners on their engagement in the Working Groups or project activities. Under these conditions, the Secretariat initiated a review of the WG activities at the Regional Coordinators Committee Meeting in Khanty-Mansyisk on June 7.

During active discussions, the Meeting participants supported the proposal of the Secretariat to engage group leaders not only from the NF regions but also from other regions or the federal center, as well as the proposal of creating two expert groups headed by Alexander Vorotnikov and Lyudmila Borilo.

Given the special interest, it was decided to create a new Working Group on Arctic tourism. The initiator - Chukotka Autonomous Okrug - assumed obligations in this area. In August, within the framework of the Bering Strait Festival in Anadyr, Natalia Slugina, the Regional Coordinator for Chukotka, introduced Tatiana Menshikova, nominated to chair the newly created group, to the Executive Director. Tatiana immediately began her active work.

Thus, the work began in two areas: to activate the existing and to create the new Working Groups, including at the expert level.



Also, promising projects were reviewed at the Meeting, including a dog-sled trip from Naryan-Mar to Chukotka, a cruise to Wrangel Island, ect.

The following projects were approved by the Meeting's Minutes:

- Dog-sled trip through the Russian Arctic from Naryan-Mar to Anadyr – Chukotka and Nenets Autonomous Okrugs
- Wrangler Island, Bering and Chukchi Seas Cruise – Chukotka Autonomous Okrug
- Establishing the Alaska-Siberia Air Route Association – Northern Forum Secretariat
- Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research under the auspices of the Northern Forum – Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University
- Arctic Startup Expeditions – Northern Youth Forum
- Development of creative industries in the NF countries – Creative Industries Development WG

Whereas planning for the first two projects takes quite a long time due to their high capital intensity, active work is underway for the rest of the projects. This Section will feature the activities of the Alaska-Siberia Air Route Association, the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research, and the work of a number of active Working Groups.



On October 6, the Secretariat hosted a working meeting with the WG leaders from Yakutia to discuss the WG activities, the preparation for the NSFD Strategic Session and the improvement of the methods and forms of work. Given the creation of the same-name expert group, the Chair of the Assessment of the Quality of Life WG Igor Nikolaev suggested changing his group's name to the Regional Governance WG to assist the regional administrations in the development and introduction of the new methods into the regional and municipal governance systems.

The WG Strategic Session was held on November 30 at the Northern Sustainable Development Forum (see above).

1. Creative Industries Development WG

Chair – Eduard Isakov, Representative from the Executive Authority of Khanty-Mansyisk AO to the Council of Federation of the Russian Federation. NF Regional Coordinator.

Goal of the WG: promote the development of creative industries in the NF member regions, integrate the events held by the NF countries and member regions in the field of creative industries' development in northern areas.

Objectives: create favorable conditions for the emergence of new ideas and (or) knowledge; eliminate barriers in the development of creative abilities of creative industries actors in northern areas; create infrastructure for the education and career guidance of children and youth; contribute to the recognition, memorability and promotion of the brands and trademarks created in the NF member regions; form creative infrastructure and creative clusters.

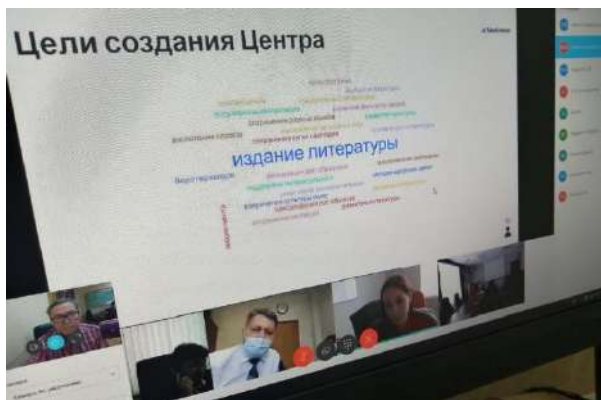
The first meeting of the WG took place on November 12, 2021 during the International Creative Industries Festival in Yugra. Further to the meeting, the Regulations, 2022 Action Plan, membership and Chair (Eduard Isakov) of the WG were approved.

On June 6, 2022, a meeting of the Working Group was held in Khanty-Mansiysk, where project initiatives in the field of creative industries of Khanty-Mansiysk AO, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Kamchatka Krai, Nenets AO, and Sakha Republic (Yakutia) were presented. Following the meeting, it was decided to admit new members from Kamchatka Krai and to submit proposals to the Department of Public and External Relations of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra on shaping interregional cooperation for the development of creative industries and experience exchange.



On December 17, 2022, the results of the *Northern Regions. Opportunities and Prospects* essay contest were announced during the Junior EWF International Discussion Club, whose meeting was for the first time held involving the representatives of the Eurasian Children's Community and the Eurasian Association of Women - Regional Leaders Public Diplomacy Fund.

The Club members who have written an essay on the region's development in the field of creative industries will be involved in the activities of the NF Creative Industries Development WG.



In 2022, the executive authorities of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra prepared their proposals on creating in the Okrug of the International Center of Finno-Ugric Peoples as an effective platform for the intercultural communications of the regions and countries of Finno-Ugric peoples' settlement.

The purpose of the Center is to promote the ethno-cultural identity of Finno-Ugric peoples and disseminate Yugra's best practices in preserving the indigenous traditional knowledge.

The Center will join the EPOS+ Federal Umbrella Project, acting to:

- provide the conditions for promoting the traditions of the indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation;
- generate interest in studying the culture of the indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation;
- ensure investment appeal of the territories of inhabitation of the indigenous peoples of Russia through organizing creative entrepreneurship in the ethnic environment.

It is suggested that the Center's structure include the following units:

- 1) Literature and Folklore Production Center (ethnic marketing media center) – promotion and production of the folk arts craftsmen, volunteers, writers and performers of Finno-Ugric peoples;
- 2) Resource Center for Ethnic Volunteering Development – training volunteers from Finno-Ugric peoples, their engagement in organizing the regional and international events and projects, including the environmental ones;
- 3) Finno-Ugric Resource and Education Center – implementation of educational programs and internships, interregional thematic summer sessions in the school camps;
- 4) International School of Folk Arts Craftsmen – training of specialists in applied and decorative arts and folk artistic craft, creating Ethnic Fashion collections, creative labs, seminars, guest performances of professional Finno-Ugric theaters.

2. Education and Research WG

Chair – Feodosia Gabysheva, Chair of the Standing Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Mass Media and Public Organizations of the State Assembly (Il Tumen) of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia).

Given Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council, the beginning of the International Indigenous Languages Decade, and in compliance with the Action Plan of the NF Education and Research WG for 2022, the following events were arranged:

- Working meeting on the development of joint projects with the NF non-permanent Construction WG;
- Research to Practice Conference of Schoolchildren *Arctic – the Territory of Cooperation*;
- *Personnel in the Arctic* Roundtable within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum in Yakutsk;
- Development of the Ecology Learning Kit with regional specific features for grades 1-11 of the general education schools of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in collaboration with Ammosov NEFU.

The current areas of the WG activity were discussed at the Group's online working meeting on February 9 and at the off-site meeting of the WG Chair Feodosia Gabysheva, Chair of the Standing Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Mass Media and Public Organizations of the State Assembly (Il Tumen) of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in Krasnoyarsk Krai in April 2022. The meetings discussed the implementation of the *Arctic Children Project*, nomadic education, environmental education, the experience of implementing pre-university education programs for the applicants from among the residents of the northern and Arctic territories of the Russian Federation, including the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East.



The first All-Russian Research to Practice Conference of Schoolchildren with international participation *Arctic - the Territory of Cooperation* was held on April 26-30, 2022. 72 papers total were presented in English in 7 areas, addressing the pressing issues of development of the North and the Arctic: Physics and Mathematics, Technical Sciences and ICT, Historical Sciences, Intercultural Communication, Social Sciences, Human Health and Medicine in the Arctic, Biology of the Arctic, Nature and Ecology of the Arctic. The Conference also frameworked a case tournament by SMART methodology, which was attended by 22 teams from 5 regions of the Russian Federation, including 9 districts of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and Yakutsk. For several days, the teams were solving 7 case studies prepared by the companies and enterprises from the territories of the Northern Forum and the Arctic Council. The Conference will be continued by the International Forum of Arctic Schools, scheduled for 2023.



Personnel in the Arctic Roundtable was held at the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum on November 30, with the following speakers: Chair of the State Employment Committee of the Sakha

Republic (Yakutia) Elena Kalashnikova, First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Mikhail Prisyazhny, Rector of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University Anatoly Nikolaev, Acting Rector of the Arctic State Agrotechnological University Valery Fedorov, Director of Taimyr College Vera Cherkasova, Director of the Arctic Strategic Development Institute of Lomonosov Northern (Arctic) Federal University Alexander Saburov, Director of Northern Peoples' Institute of Herzen Russian State Pedagogic University Sofya Unru, Head of Nomadic Education Department of the Federal Institute of Native Languages of the Peoples of the Russian Federation Natalia Sitnikova, Chief Specialist of the Unit of Social Policy, Traditional Lifestyle and Economic Activity of the Indigenous Peoples of the North Department of Yamal-Nenets AO Grigory Lyman, Director of Gogolev Yakutsk Pedagogical College Izolda Nikolaeva, technical expert of the International Union of Veterans of Nuclear Energy and Industry (IUVNEI), expert of the Project Office for Arctic Development Viktor Semenov. The roundtable convened the legislative and executive authorities of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and higher and vocational education institutions. It resulted in the recommendations designed to attract skilled professionals to the Arctic.

In collaboration with Ammosov NEFU, the Working Group continues developing the Ecology Learning Kit with regional specific features for grades 1-11 of the general education schools of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia).

With the WG support, the first republic's television recital contest in the indigenous languages *I love the Language of Ancestors* was held, convening over 70 children from 12 districts of Yakutia.

In 2023, the WG plans to continue working in such areas as Arctic Children, Preservation and Promotion of Languages of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, cooperation of Arctic schools, environmental education, and provision of the Arctic territories with skilled personnel.

3. Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity WG

Chair – Sakhamin Afanasiev, Chair of the Standing Committee on Land Relations, Natural Resources and Ecology of the State Assembly (Il Tumen) of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia).



Секретариат Северного Форума – 2022

Special Report on the Regions' Contribution to the Arctic Biodiversity Conservation, produced within Russia's Chairmanship of the Arctic Council, became the most significant work of the year 2022. The materials for the Report were provided by all regions of the Northern Forum. It is an in-depth and informative work, highly appreciated by Nikolay Korchunov, Ambassador-at-Large of the Russian MFA, Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials Committee.

The Report provides the latest information on the regional programs for biodiversity conservation and enrichment, support of protected areas, maintenance of the Red Data Book, major events held in the regions, and environmental education.

The Report will be useful for schoolchildren, students, researchers and everyone interested in the environmental issues and the Arctic.

Unfortunately, due to suspended cooperation within the Arctic Council, the Report has not been presented to the Senior Arctic Officials Committee and the Arctic Council Working Groups yet. The presentation will be organized as soon as possible.

When translated into English, it will be posted on the Northern Forum website.

Currently, such projects as *The Red Book Through the Eyes of Children* and *You are Responsible for What You Have Tamed*, initiated by Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug more than 10 years ago, are successfully working within the Working Group. The permanent project leader is Olga Stytsyuk, the Chief Curator of *Otrazheniye* (Reflection) Museum and Education Center of Talinka Culture and Sports Center.

In 2022, another book in the Red Data Book series was published, which was highly appreciated by the President of the Jury, People's Artist of Russia, Hero of Socialist Labor Zurab Tsereteli. The collection presents the creative works of the laureates of the international project – children's creativity display contest *The Red Book Through the Eyes of Children* in the following nominations: graphics, painting, arts and crafts, sculpture, photography, poetry, and essay. The goal of the project is to shape ecological culture and proactive attitude of the younger generation to the reduction of flora and fauna species diversity of the particular regions and the planet as a whole.



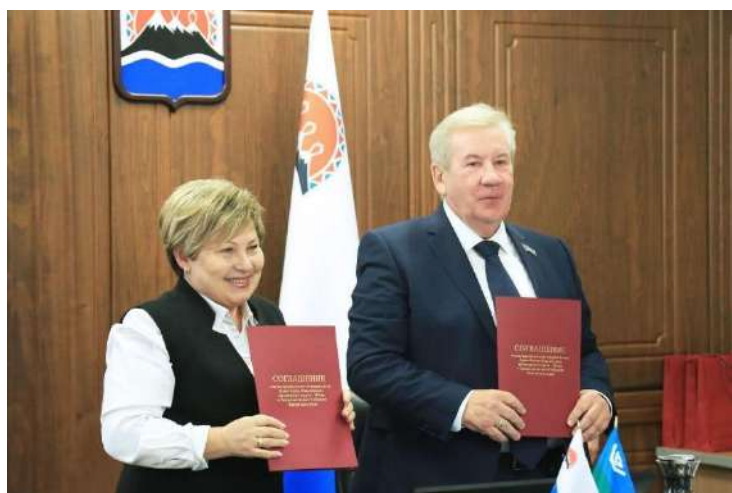
Development of Interparliamentary Cooperation in the Arctic and the North

Chair – Viktor Gubarev, Deputy Chair of the State Assembly (Il Tumen) of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia).

In 2022, the WG activity mostly focused on the regular exchange of information and experience between the regions' legislative bodies. The WG membership and Regulations were formed in 2021.

Previously, the WG had held a representative parliamentary session at the NSDF, but this year they decided not to hold the event as the new NSDF dates overlapped with the plenary sessions of both the Federal Assembly of Russia and several regional parliaments.

Establishment of a constructive dialogue between the parliaments can be noted as one of the positive points of the Group's work. The Cooperation Agreement between the legislative assemblies of Kamchatka Krai and Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug-Yugra was signed.



4. Arctic Tourism Development WG

The forming of this Working Group began in December. At the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum, a round table was successfully held, where they almost defined the WG membership. Information about the event is given in the Major Events Section.

The forming of the WG membership differs from other groups. The WG leader Tatiana Menshikova proposed to form a small working group of the country's leading experts, regardless of their place of residence and work, which would manage all activities, develop strategies and action plans. At the same time, it was proposed to create an Expert Council, to which almost all interested parties will be invited. Commissions for the areas can be formed within the Expert Council. During 2023, various methods and forms of work will be tested to select the best option.



At present, an ambitious Action Plan for 2023 has been developed, designed to attract significant resources, but at the same time bring the project activities in one of the areas to a significantly higher level, establish constructive interaction with the federal government, ensure a systematic approach to the development of tourism in the Arctic, make a significant contribution to the development of tourism products, training, and regional branding.

It is also necessary to establish effective interaction with other Working Groups, the Northern Youth Forum, Goodwill Ambassadors, and partners.

6.2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

1. Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research

The suspension of all international cooperation in the Arctic involving the Russian Federation, including that in education and science, created certain problems for educational and scientific institutions in Russia, but at the same time opened up new opportunities. There were empty niches that had to be filled.

The Northern Forum supported the initiative of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University on establishing the association of Russian universities with higher education institutions of Asian countries

and actively engaged in this work by providing the available regional potential and by establishing productive communication.

The name for the new association – Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research (RACAR) – was agreed on in May. The NF’s proposal of involving not only the universities but also the colleges and research organizations was supported. Organizational alignment was quite prompt, which allowed to ensure the leadership and to become the first in the country to announce such an initiative and get support at the highest level.

The first working meeting took place in Yakutsk on June 11. The Declaration of the Consortium’s establishment was signed at the *Universities and Development of Geostrategic Territories of Russia* Forum. Ammosov NEFU and the Northern Forum became the Consortium’s cofounders.



The initiative of the Consortium’s creation was officially supported by the RF Ministry of Foreign Affairs, RF Ministry of Science and Higher Education, and the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East and Arctic. 13 leading Russian universities, research institutions and organizations specializing in the Arctic sustainable development have joined the RACAR, as well as the Ocean University of China. At that, there’s a significant interest from a number of organizations in Russia and from the Asian countries.

On November 2, Murmansk hosted the international roundtable *Arctic Focus: RACAR Research Priorities*. The event was organized by Ammosov NEFU and the Northern Forum in collaboration with Murmansk State Technical University. The participants discussed some key issues of the RACAR activities, such as the priority research areas, the potential projects for international cooperation between the Russian and Asian universities within the Consortium. The leading experts and researchers from Russian, Chinese and Indian universities and organizations attended the meeting.



A growing interest in the Consortium was observed not only from the Russian universities and research institutions, but also from China, India, South Korea and Indonesia. It was proposed to further develop the scientific cooperation.

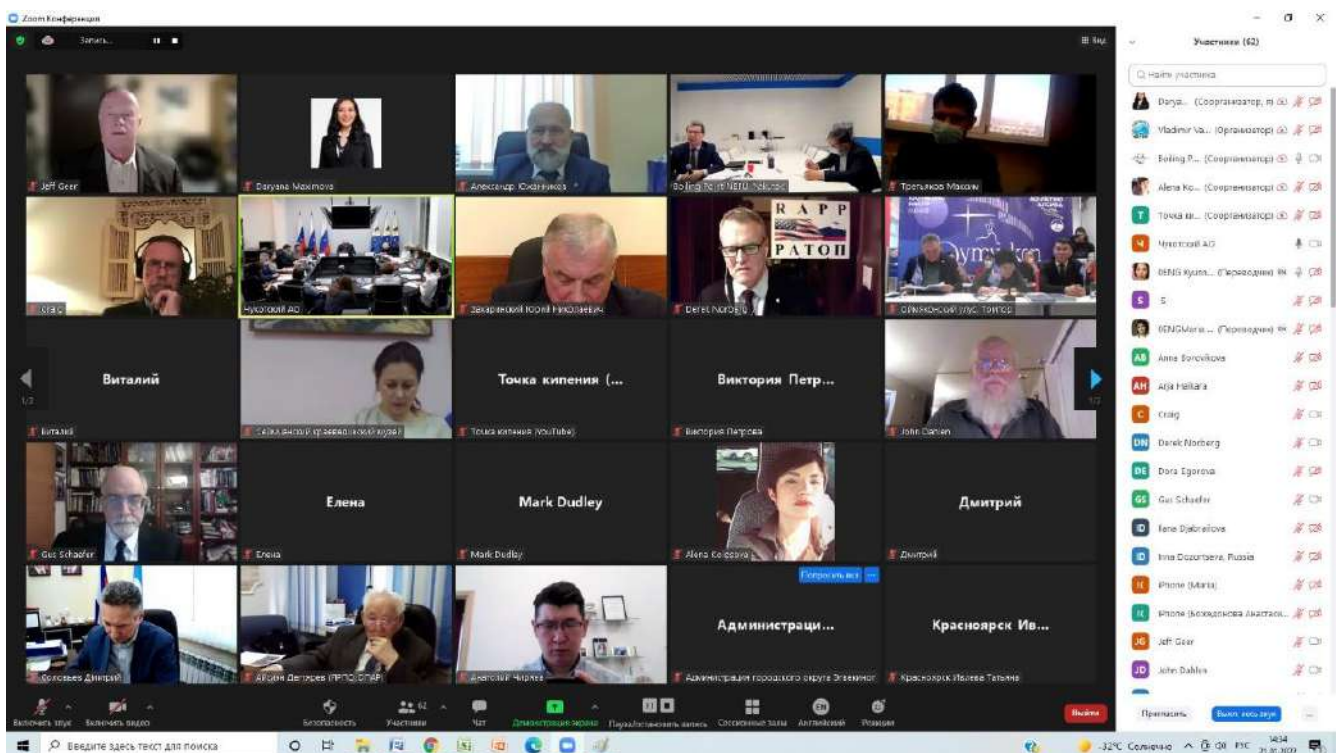
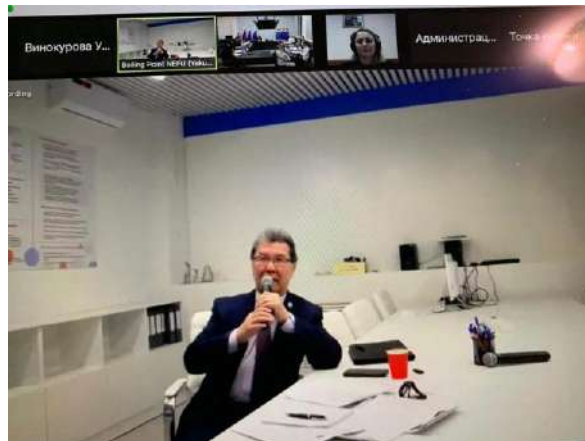
The key event of the year was the second meeting of the Consortium within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum in Yakutsk on November 29, where they signed the RACAR foundational agreement, adopted its Charter, and identified its priority areas and organizational structure. Thus, it only took half a year to establish a new international research and education association that began its active practical work.





2. Alaska-Siberia Air Route Association

At the beginning of the year, Oymyakon District of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) initiated a roundtable dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Alaska-Siberia air route. The organizers invited the Northern Forum Executive Director to moderate the roundtable and asked for assistance in inviting partners from the United States and other regions of Russia.



It resulted in a large-scale roundtable, convening all regions of the route (Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Magadan Oblast, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Krasnoyarsk Krai, Alaska, and Washington, USA). The project aroused significant interest, as the representatives of the Russian Geographical Society, Northern Convoy NPO, Russian-American Pacific Partnership, and others also took part in it.

The discussion resulted in the resolution, determining the main areas of cooperation, and the Northern Forum's proposal on the establishment of the Alaska-Siberia Air Route International Association under the auspices of the Northern Forum.

In January-February, the Association's Regulations and Action Plan were developed, but all the work on establishing the international association had to be postponed indefinitely. Nevertheless, Russian regions agreed they couldn't stop what had been started and decided to continue joint work in Russia.

In March, the students of Berdigestyakh Secondary School of Gorny District organized a 75-km ski tour to the Douglas aircraft crash site. Yakutsk City National Gymnasium and Tarat Kindergarten-Primary School of Megino-Kangalassy District organized *ALSIB: a Route of Courage* memorial events, which brought together the teachers and students of Yakutsk City National Gymnasium, Berdigestyakh Secondary School, Tarat Kindergarten-Primary School, and Khamagatta Sakha-French Lyceum.



On April 20, the Center for Creative Development and Humanitarian Education of Schoolchildren of Olyokma District organized the first seminar of the youth network project *ALSIB History – My Country's History*.



On April 22, a regular working meeting of the project's coordinators was held, where it was decided to organize memorial events within the Immortal Regiment March, carrying the portraits of ALSIB air route participants, and the projects on the route's history were supported.

On April 29, a quiz about ALSIB was organized in Chukotka Autonomous Okrug. The research and practice game was arranged as a final exam at Ivanovo Flying School, each team

representing one training squadron. The game was organized at the coworking area of the Okrug's Arts Center.

The results of the quiz were as follows: Osipov Berdigestyakh Secondary School 10 points, Anadyr Secondary School # 1 9 points, Ugolnye Kopi Education Center 7 points, Yakutia Secondary School # 4 6 points. The children were awarded with valuable prizes.

Immortal Regiment Marches with ALSIB veterans' portraits were organized in the NF member regions – Chukotka AO, Magadan Oblast, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), and Krasnoyarsk Krai. The event's participants were carrying the portraits of pilots, mechanics and home front workers, who had significantly contributed to the lend-lease program, as well as to the construction and maintenance of the airdromes in the harsh climate of Siberia. Schoolchildren, searchers, family members, as well as those who care for ALSIB, were among the thousands of the Immortal Regiment participants.



On August 10, the online opening of the Interregional Youth Network Research Project *ALSIB History – My Country's History*, initiated by the Center for Creative Development and Humanitarian Education of Schoolchildren of Olyokma District of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the YASSR and the 80th anniversary of the legendary Alaska-Siberia Air Route (ALSIB), took place.

The following scientists from Yakutia became the project's academic advisors:


- Sardana Boyakova, Doctor of History, Head, History and Arctic Studies Department, Institute of Humanities and Indigenous Peoples of the North SD RAS, Academic Advisor;
- Spiridon Sleptsov – Candidate of Biology, Assistant Professor, Senior Researcher, Department of Chronic NCD Epidemiology, Yakutsk Scientific Center of Complex Medical Problems;

- Marianna Gryaznukhina – Junior Researcher, History and Arctic Studies Department, Institute of Humanities and Indigenous Peoples of the North SD RAS;
- Evgenia Becheryakova – postgraduate student, RAS General History Institute.

phenonet.ru/istoria_alsib

Индикс

Сетевой межрегиональный молодежный исследовательский проект



Проект посвящен 100-летию ЯАССР и 80-летию трассы Аляска - Сибирь (АлСиБ).
Проект реализуется под эгидой Международной организации северных регионов "Северный Форум"



Главная цель проекта - привлечь внимание молодого поколения к сохранению исторического наследия легендарной воздушной трассы Фарбенкс - Якутск - Красноярск (АЛЯСКА - СИБИРЬ), созданной в 1942 году.



Проект имеет практико-ориентированную направленность и предполагает самостоятельную исследовательскую деятельность участников под руководством научных консультантов (наставников) и педагогов школ.



В аэропорту таежного города Олекминск стоит неброский обелиск - летящая Аэрокобра - макет истребителя Р-39 времен Великой Отечественной войны. Строгая табличка на постаменте сообщает нам о том, что это памятник погибшим лётчикам Алсиба. Подобные обелиски и памятники можно встретить в ряде сибирских городов - там, где проходила легендарная воздушная

Уэлькаль, Марково, Сеймчан, Оймякон, Якутск, Олекминск, Киренск, Красноярск и далее по трассе к местам боевых действий отважные лётчики доставляли такую необходимую фронту технику и грузы.

Каждый день мы привычно проходим мимо, спеша на учебу или работу. И мало кто из нас задумывается о том, какая история военных

The main aim of the project is to raise the younger generation's awareness of preserving the legacy of the legendary Fairbanks-Yakutsk-Krasnoyarsk (ALASKA-SIBERIA) Air Route, organized in 1942.

Fields of the project:

- Preserve the historical memory of the Alaska-Siberia Air Route;
- Assistance of Yakutia's local population in the construction and maintenance of the airdromes of the Alaska-Siberia Ferry Route, search activity to recover the names of those engaged in the construction and maintenance of the Alaska-Siberia Air Route;
- History of ferry air fleet in the Great Patriotic War, search activities for the Route's air staff and aircrafts;
- Construction and operation of the Alaska-Siberia Air Route;
- Design of models of the buildings and aircrafts of ALSIB Air Rote involving 3D-modelling, create electronic resources and virtual tours of the ALSIB Route.

About 100 participants registered in the project – students and teachers from Krasnoyarsk Krai, Olyokma, Kobyai, Tompo, Oymyakon Districts and Yakutsk, Chukotka AO, and Magadan Oblast.

A lot of work was conducted within the project: creative contests, lectures, seminars and a conference.



A *Week of Memory* was opened in Krasnoyarsk on November 11, which frameworked a series of events dedicated to the ALSIB anniversary. They included a display of the winning works of the Alaska-Siberia Interregional Children’s Creativity Exhibition Contest and a screening of a film *Wings. The Gates of the High North.* by Krasnoyarsk director Elina Astrakhantseva. For the deltiologists, a cancellation ceremony of the postcards, dedicated to the 80th anniversary of Krasnoyarsk Air Route, was organized. A short lecture on the ALSIB history was delivered to the participants of the *Post # 1 Project*. Thematic

history quizzes were organized for the schoolchildren and students. An educational conference took place on November 18.

Schoolchildren from Yakutia (Yakutsk and Olyokminsk), the winners of the Interregional Network Research Project *ALSIB History – My Country’s History*, visited Krasnoyarsk in December.

The schoolchildren visited museums, youth centers, watched the city architecture, but their main goal was to get acquainted with the exhibitions dedicated to the Alaska-Siberia Krasnoyarsk Air Route.

The children visited Molokov Krasnoyarsk Branch of St. Petersburg State University of Civil Aviation, Roev Ruchei Flora and Fauna Park, Gorky Central City Library, Federal Air Transport Agency Museum, Peace Square Museum Center, Victory Memorial Museum, and USSR Hero Vasily Molokov School # 150. They went on a *Secret Route* bus tour. They also had a meeting Alexander Matveev, Head of Commission of Krasnoyarsk Krai Branch of the Russian Geographical Society for the Historic Memory Preservation.



Thus, a huge amount of work has been carried out by the joined efforts of the regional activists, supported by the Northern Forum, to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Alaska-Siberia Air Route. The Russian section of the planned Association has been established and a formed group of coordinators will continue the work within the Patriotic Education field.

3. Digitalization of the Linguistic and Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic

The Northern Forum has made a significant contribution to the project’s recognition by the Arctic Council and its inclusion in the list of projects of the Sustainable Development Working Group. Within the framework of the Northern Sustainable Development Forum, a round table is annually held to discuss the progress of the project, and the year 2022 was no exception.

On November 2, 2022, within the framework of the 3rd *Peoples of Russia* All-Russian Forum, Moscow hosted the Arctic Indigenous Peoples Summit, attended by the Northern Forum representatives: Anatoly Zhozhikov, Head of the International UNESCO Chair “Social and Human Adaptation of the Arctic Regions

to Climate Change” of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University, initiator of the *Digitalization of the Linguistic and Cultural Heritage of the Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic* Project; Vera Cherkasova, Director of Taimyr College of Krasnoyarsk Krai, Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum Education and Research Working Group.



Mr Zhozhikov’s presentation on the implementation of the Arctic Council Project *Digitalization of the Linguistic and Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic* became the key one at the panel session *Modern Approaches to Preserving the Languages, Cultural Heritage and Lifestyle of the Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic: Traditions and Innovations*.

The presentation featured the practical implementation of the project in 2021-2022. The main proposals on the project work included production of a GIS-map of the languages of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic, organization of expeditions to the places of compact residence of the indigenous peoples of the North, Web-content of the collected photo and video information, organized All-Russian and international conferences and seminars, as well as information on the signed agreements with the key organizations possessing information on the languages and culture of the indigenous peoples. According to Anatoly Zhozhikov, the proposals on raising funds for the project from the administrations of the regions where indigenous peoples live, as well as on providing access and transfer of digital resources on the linguistic and cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic, developed at the expense of the federal budget, will help to fully implement the project. Mr Zhozhikov's report aroused great interest among the participants of the Summit. Aleuts from Kamchatka Krai, indigenous peoples of Chukotka, Krasnoyarsk Krai, and Vepsians from Karelia expressed their willingness to participate in the project.



Anatoly Zhozhikov also highlighted that a federal meeting on supporting the project of the Arctic Council *Digitalization of the Linguistic and Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic* is being prepared in cooperation with Mikhail Pogodaev, Deputy Minister for the Arctic Development and Indigenous Peoples Affairs of Yakutia. At the Summit, the issue was discussed with Nikolay Korchunov, Ambassador-at-Large of the Russian MFA, Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials Committee.



COLLABORATION WITH THE ARCTIC COUNCIL



ОТВЕТСТВЕННОЕ
УПРАВЛЕНИЕ
ДЛЯ УСТОЙЧИВОЙ
АРКТИКИ



2021–2023

АРКТИЧЕСКИЙ СОВЕТ
ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛЬСТВО РОССИИ



As part of Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council, the Northern Forum assumed significant obligations on preparing and holding such major events as the Arctic Resilience Forum, the Conference of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Business Associations of the Arctic Regions, the Arctic Energy Summit, which, unfortunately, were canceled due to suspended cooperation in the Arctic.

The 1st Arctic Youth Startup Forum and the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum were held successfully, and a Special Report on the Regions' Contribution to the Arctic Biodiversity Conservation was produced. Participation in different Arctic Council events is featured in different Sections of the Report.

The Northern Forum intends to dutifully continue maintaining its Observer status with the Arctic Council.



PARTNERSHIPS

7.1. SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS

The Northern Forum is constantly working to expand its partner network not only by signing agreements, but also by using the potential of its member regions engaged in the activities of other international and national organizations and associations.

Agreements within the Regional Coordinators Committee Meeting in Khanty-Mansyisk

Three agreements were signed on June 6 and 8:



Cooperation Agreement with the **Project Office for Arctic Development**. The Northern Forum has been cooperating with the Project Office for Arctic Development for quite a long time now; the Office provided small grants to the projects of the Northern Forum and its partners. The Agreement provides for the expansion of the forms and mechanisms of interaction.

Cooperation Agreement with the **Eurasian Association of Women-Regional Leaders Public Diplomacy Fund**. Given that the Governor of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug-Yugra Natalia Komarova and women-leaders from many countries, including BRICS, are among the Fund's members, it can significantly contribute to the implementation of the NF Development Concept and to turning eastwards under the coming chairmanship of Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug-Yugra in the NF in 2023-2025.



In addition, the Cooperation Agreement with **Yugra State University** was updated. The University is the winner of the 2020 Call for Projects and has joined the newly established Russian- Asian Consortium for Arctic Research. The updated Agreement will allow the University to become one of the leaders in the project activity.

The Northern Forum is trying to view the signing of agreements from a practical perspective and use it as a basis for effective cooperation. In that respect, all the signed agreements are quite

promising and are about to start.

Agreements within the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok

At the Eastern Economic Forum, the Northern Forum signed a Cooperation Agreement with the major operator of Russia's largest forums – **Roscongress Fund**. In general, the parties have been cooperating for quite a long time – the Northern Forum is a permanent participant of the *Arctic – Territory of Dialogue* Forum and SPIEF; it held its Governors Summits on the sidelines of the Arctic Forum and attended many sessions of these events. The contribution of the Northern Forum has been acknowledged by the Letter of Gratitude from the Chair of the Steering Committee, First Deputy Chair of the Russian Government Andrey Belousov.

In 2022, Roscongress suggested to sign the Agreement to formalize the existing arrangements and expand the areas of cooperation.

The Agreement was signed on September 6, laying a solid foundation for a new level of cooperation.



The Russian Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East is a Permanent Participant of the Arctic Council, whereas the Northern Forum is an Observer. From the very beginning, both organizations have actively supported each other. The NF initiatives under such projects as the *Arctic Children* and *Digitalization of the Linguistic and Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic* have become the projects of the Arctic Council with a crucial support of the Association.

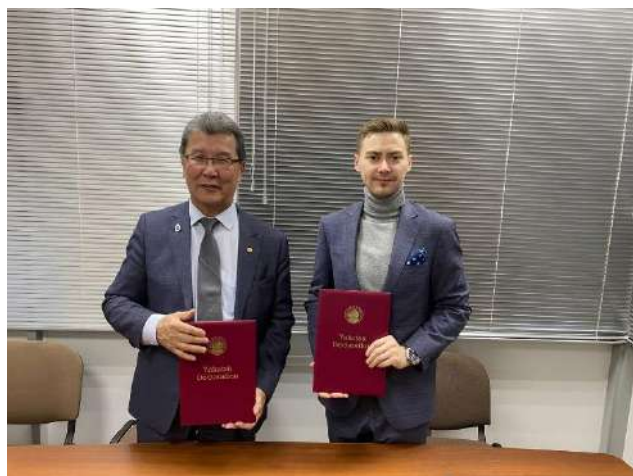
Suspended cooperation in the Arctic has become yet another challenge for the Arctic Council participants. Combining efforts to maintain a dialogue is of particular importance in this context.

In 2022, RAIPON President Grigory Ledkov and NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev had a series of consultations and agreed to formalize and expand cooperation.

On September 7, the Agreement Cooperation was signed in the Pavilion of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia); one of the Agreement's key directions is to create the Association's permanent platform at the Northern Sustainable Development Forum. Support of youth and traditional economies will be strongly focused on.



Agreements within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum



Before and during the NSDF, it was agreed to sign several agreements, but due to the busy schedule, the signing was postponed until December.

On December 16, a Cooperation Agreement was signed with **North Research and Education Center**.

The plans to create a network of 15 world-class research and education centers are set by the Decree of the President of Russia Vladimir Putin dated May 7, 2018, # 204 "On the national goals and strategic objectives of the development of the Russian Federation for the period till 2024". According to the goals of the Science and Universities National Project,

in 2024 Russia has to enter the top ten countries in the world in terms of research and development, including through the creation of an effective higher education system.

This agreement will contribute to the development of both the Center and the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research.



On December 20, the Northern Forum signed a Cooperation Agreement with the **Women in Nuclear Russia Association**. It is planned to expand cooperation on joint project activities in areas relevant for the Arctic and the North, including the *Women in the Arctic* project. NF Deputy Executive Director Daryana Maksimova spoke at the *Women in the Arctic* session at the 4th Women in Nuclear Industry International Forum.

7.2. DEVELOPMENT OF PARTNERSHIPS

Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University

The year 2022 was marked by a significant strengthening of cooperation with Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University. In addition to the Northern Sustainable Development Forum, where the Northern Forum and NEFU are the key co-organizers, the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research was established with a successful launch in November.

The interaction will also expand through the Agreement with the North Research and Education Center.

Moreover, the NF Deputy Executive Director Daryana Maximova is the Acting Chair of the International Research Department of the Institute of Modern Languages and International Studies, whereas its Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev is the Chair of the State Examination Commission for International Studies.

The Secretariat organizes internships for students on a regular basis. The Arctic Winter School, funded by the Alexander Gorchakov Public Diplomacy Fund, was successfully held within the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum. The School's students, together with the Arctic Portal Director Halldor Johannsson, visited Osipov Berdigestyakh Secondary School.



Interregional Scientific, Technological, Business and Educational Partnership

Sustainable Development of the Russian Arctic

The Agreement with the Partnership was signed in 2021; this year, the cooperation has been especially productive. The NF Executive Director co-moderated the international cooperation roundtable with Nikolay Korchunov, Ambassador-at-Large of the Russian MFA, Chair of the Senior Arctic Officials Committee, at the *Arctic: Sustainable Development* International Conference, annually held by the Partnership. The Conference is becoming a significant platform for discussing all aspects of sustainable development of the Russian Arctic. The Northern Forum acted as the Conference's partner.



The Partnership's Director General Tamara Mordasova took an active part in the NF Regional Coordinators Committee Meeting in Khanty-Mansyisk. The Partnership was the Special Partner of the 4th NSDF and significantly contributed to its successful organization by arranging the speakers for the plenary session and several official partners, as well as by organizing a number of interesting sessions:

- Innovative Technologies for the Arctic Zone Roundtable
- The Role of Museums in the Development and Promotion of the Arctic Regions Strategic Session
- Distributed Energy for the Isolated Areas of the Far East and the Arctic Strategic Session
- ESG Principles: Opportunities for the Development of the Arctic in the New Geopolitical Reality

More information on the sessions is available in the NSDF Report.



Promoting Cooperation in the Arctic

In the context of suspended cooperation in the Arctic and cancellation of the Arctic Council events, where the Northern Forum was the main operator, the NF tried to involve in the activities of the Russian Chairmanship in the Arctic Council and maintain communication with the coordinators of the Russian Chairmanship throughout the year.

A number of activities are described in the previous Sections of the Report. In this subsection, we give additional information on the NF assistance to the international Arctic cooperation.

In May, a meeting was held with Mikhail Uksusov, Youth Envoy for International Cooperation in the Arctic of the Russian Chairmanship in the Arctic Council in 2021-2023. During the discussion, the guidelines for further cooperation with the Northern Youth Forum were outlined. Mikhail Uksusov suggested rendering comprehensive assistance in involving Murmansk Oblast in the activities of the Northern Forum. The issues of providing assistance in



creating the Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research under the auspices of the Northern Forum were also discussed. The interest of Murmansk Oblast in cooperating with India and Bangladesh in fishing industry, shipbuilding and shipping, as well as environment cleanup, was highlighted.

The key trends in tourism industry, creation of infrastructure, promotion of tours and sustainable development of tourism in the Arctic were discussed by the business agenda participants of the Bering Strait International Festival, which took place on August 2-7 in Chukotka as part of the Program of Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council.



The NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev attended the *Sustainable Development of the Arctic: Major Emphasis* Session, dedicated to ethno-cultural and ecological tourism, and involvement of the local population in the hospitality industry. He spoke about the organization's opportunities and efforts for the regions in tourism, as well as about a new Tourism Working Group, formed at the initiative Chukotka Autonomous Okrug.

The Northern Forum Business Partner, Arctic Portal Director Halldor Johannsson spoke at the *Warm or Cold? What the Arctic Looks Like from the Mainland* Session, where he presented the Arctic Business Directory for tourism and talked about the tourism industry support in Iceland and Western countries.

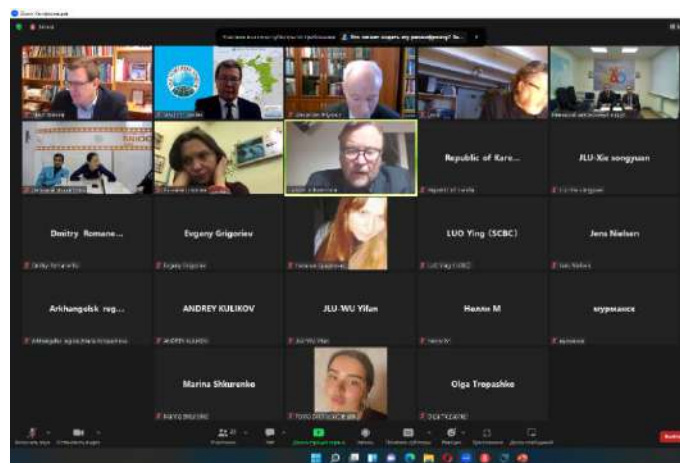
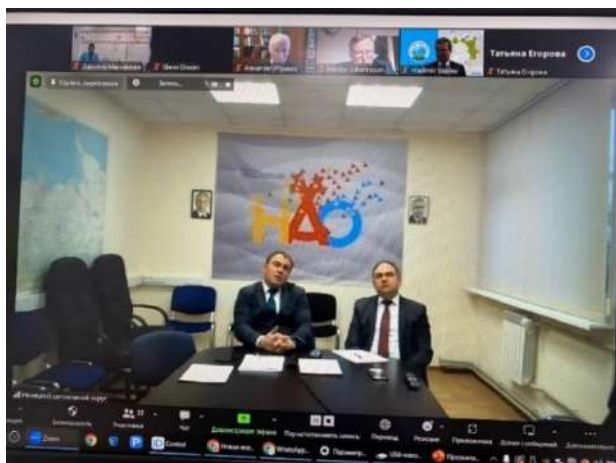
The Administration of Nenets Autonomous Okrug held online the 5th *Arctic Telemedicine* International Scientific and Practical Conference on November 24, 2022, as part of Russia's Chairmanship in the Arctic Council and the Okrug's Chairmanship in the Barents Regional Council. The main goal of the event is for the professional community to discuss the features of healthcare digitalization in the Arctic, which differs significantly from other Russian regions in terms of climate and natural conditions. The Goodwill Ambassador of the Northern Forum, Professor of the Oceanological University of China Guo Peiqing and his colleagues took part in the conference.



The first working meeting of the Arctic Council Observers with Morten Høglund, the Senior Arctic Official for Norway, took place. Together with the Arctic Council Secretariat Director Mathieu Parker, he briefly informed that Norway is starting to prepare for the chairmanship, whose takeover is tentatively scheduled for May 11-12, 2023. At that, Mr Høglund noted that the chairmanship takeover will be arranged pursuant to the rules and procedures of the Arctic Council. The NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev took part in the meeting. We hope there will be no obstacles for the Northern Forum to take part in the events.



On December 15, 2022, the meeting of the representatives of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC) regions, organized by Nenets AO – the BEAC Chair Region, took place. The event was moderated by the Chair of the International and Interregional Relations Committee Sergey Kungurtsev. Nenets AO is also the Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum. The NF Secretariat executives, Goodwill Ambassadors and partners attended the meeting and shared their vision of the development prospects for the interregional cooperation in the Arctic.



The Northern Forum supported the *Restart* project - a program for the development of the indigenous youth in Kamchatka Krai, by granting RUB 200 000. As part of the project, Indigenous Youth Educational Forum was held on December 6, where the Northern Forum also acted as its partner.





PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENTS

In addition to the events of the Northern Forum, the Arctic Council, and the NF partners, the Northern Forum Secretariat tries to take part in other events to promote the mission of the organization and expand the network of potential partners.

Some of the events where the representatives of the Northern Forum took part are covered in the previous Sections. In this Section, we are telling about the activities not covered above.

After the start of the special military operation in Ukraine, almost all conferences and forums in the foreign countries were closed for the representatives of the Russian Federation, which created more obstacles for the Northern Forum, because the its headquarters is located in Russia, and most of its members are Russian regions. In the international Arctic, the Northern Forum is still viewed more like a Russian organization, but enjoys authority and a high rating in the international community.

Anyway, the Arctic Circle International Assembly in Reykjavik, on whose sidelined the Northern Forum has traditionally arranged its sessions, denied not only the arrangement of the events, but the participation in general.

ARCTIC FRONTIERS

At first, Norway banned Russians from the Arctic Frontiers International Forum in Tromso, then allowing them to attend just before the event; as long as there was no time left to arrange the attendance, most Russians attended the forum online as observers. The NF Executive Director attended the Arctic Frontiers online, too. At that, the dates of the Forum were quite uncommon – May 8-11.

NF Deputy Executive Director Daryana Maximova worked as an expert at the 3rd Yakutia International Science Fair within the **2nd International Science Games under the auspices of the Northern Forum** (Yakutsk, July 5-10) and spoke about the possible ways of developing interregional cooperation and launching startups in the context of the global geopolitical changes on the example of the Northern Forum.





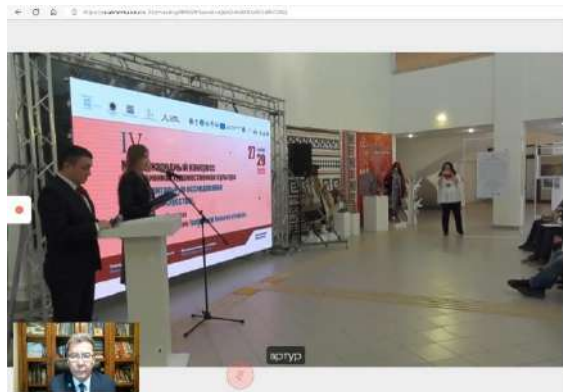
The Northern Forum Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev spoke at the *Social Agenda of the Regions: New International Crossroads* Session of the Eastern Economic Forum-2022. He noted that the NF is the only Arctic Council Observer with a Secretariat in Russia, and spoke about the new Northern Forum Concept, focused on the North-South cooperation, with a work underway to restore the ties and contacts with Asian regions, in particular with the Chinese ones. In his presentation, Mr Vasilev emphasized the organization's current activities, including the creation of the NF Goodwill Ambassadors Institute and the NF Foundation, reorganization of the Working Groups' activities and formation of a new Tourism Working Group under the initiative of Chukotka.



The projects of the NF partner, Multiditek LLC (CEO - Taisiya Tarabukina), were successfully presented at the EEF, including *Northern Tales* and *Buukuba Eigete* (in Yakut language) books, published with the support of the Northern Forum and the Fund of Future Generations of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia). Both works were also presented at the 4th Northern Sustainable Development Forum. Earlier, *The Secret of Permafrost* children's book had been published with the support of the Northern Forum and its Regional Adaptation to Climate Change WG.



On October 6, the NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev spoke at the ***Role of Public Diplomacy in Developing Cross-border Cooperation in the North of Europe and the Arctic*** panel discussion of the Forum of the Civic Chamber of Russia *Community: A Forum for Those Who Act* in Petrozavodsk. The Northern Forum makes every effort to maintain interregional cooperation and actively creates new tools and formats that allow the regions, NGOs, scientific, educational, and business communities to develop effective interaction with various countries.



The Northern Forum Executive Director delivered welcoming remarks at the opening of the 4th International Congress *Traditional Artistic Culture: Fundamental Studies of Folk Art*, held on October 27-29 in Khanty-Mansyisk. The Congress discussed the scientific understanding of ethno-cultural and regional issues of education, the academic strategies and models of education, as well as the relevance of making conditions for a creative industry in design, ornamental and folk art.

One of the major events where the Northern Forum participated, was the UN Conference of the Parties on Climate Change in Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt). The Northern Forum is an Observer to the UNFCCC, which made it possible to get two quotas for participation. The NF Executive Director and the Arctic Portal Director Halldor Johannsson had the opportunity to visit and work in the first week of the conference. They spoke at several sessions and had quite a lot of meetings to highlight the activities of the Northern Forum and its Foundation, as well as discuss the promising areas of cooperation. This platform is one of the largest and most demanded in the world, and in the future the Northern Forum should pay special attention to engaging in its work. The major problem that may arise is the high cost of organizing its event, as well as high travel and accommodation expenses.





The Northern Forum Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev spoke at the plenary session of the 7th International Humanitarian Forum *Civil Initiatives of the Regions of the 60th Parallel* in Kogalym, Khanty-Mansyisk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra, talking about the opportunities created by the organization for effective interaction with the NGO sector and sharing the plans for the near future.



The image of modern northern and Arctic cities and their future were discussed at the session on the development of northern cities of the International Humanitarian Forum *Civil Initiatives of the Regions of the 60th Parallel*. The architects shared their vision of what new cities could become, how to improve the urban environment to retain the population and create comfortable conditions, as well as showcased the examples of master plans and design codes for a number of cities. The NF Executive Director Vladimir Vasilev answered the moderator's questions about how to attract young people to the Arctic, how business supports infrastructure projects, and the problems experienced by the Arctic residents.



FINAL REMARKS

In general, the year was difficult, with drastic changes in our plans. We had to switch to a fully hands-on management, trying to flexibly respond to the external signals and global trends. The growing tension between Russia and the West forced us to revise almost all the approved plans. At the end of the year, we lost three regions, two of them being the key ones in Europe. Nevertheless, the core of the organization has been preserved, a huge amount of work has been carried out, the foundations for further forward movement and development have been created, bridges are being built to the east and south, and the prospects for going global have been outlined.

The Northern Forum has become a true unifying force of the federal and regional structures as well as the business community in the northern and Arctic territories of Russia.

The main events of the Northern Forum – the meeting of the Regional Coordinators Committee, the Northern Sustainable Development Forum, and the 3rd Governors Summit – were held successfully.

A partner network is growing, joined by such serious organizations such as Roscongress Fund, RAIPON, and North Research and Education Center.

All structures of the organization are being strengthened, our Goodwill Ambassadors' contribution is getting tangible, the Working Groups' reorganization is underway, and there is confidence in establishing effective project activities. We started working on creating the Northern Forum Social Projects Foundation under the NF Secretariat.

The Russian-Asian Consortium for Arctic Research was created, which once again proves that the Northern Forum has always acted as an ideator, an innovative institutional structure compared well with most international organizations for its adaptability, prompt decision-making and pioneering approach to all global and local challenges. This remarkable feature of the Northern Forum is very clearly described in the new *Born to Unite* book.

The application of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra for the Northern Forum chairmanship in 2023-2025 has been supported by the 3rd Governors Summit.

The end of the year was marked by a full support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, expressed by Minister Sergey Lavrov, which became possible thanks to the efforts and initiative of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia).

The Northern Forum Secretariat expresses its sincere gratitude to everyone who supported the organization during this difficult period, extended a helping hand, came up with new initiatives, and promoted the mission of the Northern Forum.

Ambitious and large-scale plans for 2023 and the following years have been drafted. The Northern Forum has both feet on the ground and that is why we have every right to say once again: THE COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN AND ARCTIC REGIONS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL BE THERE!



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The Report uses the photographs of the Northern Forum Secretariat, the Press Service of Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University named after M.K. Ammosov, as well as the photographs provided by the organizers of various events and taken from open Internet resources.