



**Northern Forum  
Activity Report  
from January 2018 to October 2018**

2018

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## ACRONYM LIST

NF	NORTHERN FORUM
ACAP	ARCTIC CONTAMINANTS ACTION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP (1 OF 6 ARCTIC COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS)
AMAP	ARCTIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM WORKING GROUP (1 OF 6 ARCTIC COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS)
APPLICATE	ADVANCED PREDICTION IN POLAR REGIONS AND BEYOND: MODELLING, OBSERVING SYSTEM DESIGN AND LINKAGES ASSOCIATED WITH A CHANGING ARCTIC CLIMATE (A PROJECT FINANCED BY THE EU HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME)
AREA	ARCTIC RENEWABLE ENERGY ATLAS (SDWG PROJECT)
ARENA	ARCTIC REMOTE ENERGY NETWORKS ACADEMY (SDWG PROJECT)
CAFF	CONSERVATION OF ARCTIC FLORA AND FAUNA WORKING GROUP (1 OF 6 ARCTIC COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS)
CLEO	CIRCUMPOLAR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVER NETWORK (ACAP)
EALLU	ARCTIC INDIGENOUS YOUTH, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD CULTURE (SDWG PROJECT)
EPPR	EMERGENCY PREVENTION PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE WORKING GROUP (1 OF 6 ARCTIC COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS)
IASC	INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE
PAME	PROTECTION OF THE ARCTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP (1 OF 6 ARCTIC COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS)
RAIPON	RUSSIAN ASSOCIATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE NORTH

RCC	REGIONAL COORDINATORS COMMITTEE (NORTHERN FORUM)
SAO	SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIAL (ARCTIC COUNCIL)
SDWG	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP (1 OF 6 ARCTIC COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS)
SECNET	SIBERIAN ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE NETWORK
SLICA	SURVEY OF LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE ARCTIC (ARCTIC COUNCIL'S PROJECT)
UIC	UKPEAGVIK IÑUPIAT CORPORATION
WASH	IMPROVING HEALTH IN ARCTIC COMMUNITIES THROUGH SAFE AND AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO HOUSEHOLD RUNNING WATER AND SEWER: WATER, SANITATION AND HEALTH (SDWG PROJECT)

## INTRODUCTION

Nenets Autonomous Krai assumed the Chairmanship in the Northern Forum after XIII General Assembly of the Northern Forum, which was held on April 11-12, 2018, in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. Transitional period this year coincided with elections of state governors in Russia, and it led to changes in the list of Northern Forum Board of Governors and Regional Coordinators Committee.

During this transitional period the Northern Forum member-regions have demonstrated a high level of cooperation in changing conditions. Our dedicated consolidated efforts to strengthen the status of the organization resulted in significant successes in promoting the regional dimension within the international Arctic agenda. We stepped up as an equal, strong player and a voice of Arctic and Northern regions.

The Northern Forum was one of the first to bring the regions together to address common challenges and which has been successfully implementing the vision of the founding governors for 26 years so far, what largely proves the critical significance of and need for regional component in the Arctic international cooperation. The increasing demand for regional structures of cooperation is recognized by the Arctic Council. During the Chairmanship of Krasnoyarsk Krai in the Northern Forum, we successfully went through the Arctic Council's Observers review process and maintained our status in the Arctic Council as an only one nongovernmental organization leading the interregional cooperation in the Arctic that is currently Observer to the Council.

The success of our work is driven by vast engagement of member-regions in cooperation under the auspices of the Northern Forum. At the present stage of organization's development, we need to take the achieved pace of interaction to the next level and to ensure a broad presence of the Northern Forum in the international arena in order to include regional voices in shaping the Arctic agenda.

We truly believe that the following period under next chairing region will mark the new milestone in strategic development of the Northern Forum and strengthening the voice of the regions on global arena.

### 1. NF MEMBERSHIP

#### 1.1 Member regions of NF

The Northern Forum is a non-profit international organization composed of fourteen sub-national or regional governments from five northern countries:

- Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia), Chair
- Akureiri (Iceland), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northern Europe
- Gangwon Province (Republic of Korea), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northeast Asia
- Sakha Republic (Russia), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northeast Russia
- Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra, Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northwest Russia
- Kamchatka Krai (Russia)
- Krasnoyarsk Krai (Russia)
- Lapland (Finland)
- Magadan Oblast (Russia)
- Primorsky Krai (Russia)
- Khabarovskiy Krai (Russia)
- Chukotka Autonomous Okrug (Russia)
- Alaska (USA)
- Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia)

The NF Chair, the NF member regions and the Northern Forum Secretariat have been engaging new regions and expanding the Northern Forum membership.

At this point, Arkhangelsk Oblast and Murmansk Oblast are considering accession to the Northern Forum. During the NF Governors meeting, held within the framework of “Arctic: Territory of Dialogue” International Arctic Forum in Arkhangelsk, March 30, 2017, the Governor of Arkhangelsk Oblast Igor Orlov announced the request to start the procedure of Arkhangelsk Oblast’s accession to the Northern Forum.

Besides, the Northern Forum expansion work continues in **Sakhalin Oblast, Komi Republic and others Russian regions**. In addition, **the metropolitan city of Busan (Republic of Korea), Heilongjiang (PRC), Greenland (Denmark) and a number of regions of Norway** are interested in the Northern Forum’s activities.

**Heilongjiang**, represented by the Foreign Affairs Office of Heilongjiang Province and the Academy of Sciences of Heilongjiang Province, also participated the NF Governors’ meeting in Arkhangelsk.

## 1.2 Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is the highest policy-making body of the Northern Forum. The members of the Board are Northern Forum member-regions senior officials. The Board of Governors is as follows:

- **Aleksandr Tsybulsky**, Governor of Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia), Chair of the Northern Forum
- **Aisen Nikolaiev**, Head of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Russia), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northeast Russia
- **Ásthildur Sturludóttir**, Mayor of Akureyri (Iceland), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northern Europe
- **Natalya Komarova**, Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Unga (Russia), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northwest Russia
- **Choi Moon-soon**, Governor of Gangwon Province (Republic of Korea), Vice-Chair of the Northern Forum from Northeast Asia
- **Aleksandr Uss**, Governor of Krasnoyarsk Krai (Russia)
- **Bill Walker**, Governor of Alaska (USA)
- **Vladimir Ilyukhin**, Governor of Kamchatka Krai (Russia)
- **Dmitriy Artykhov**, Governor of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia)
- **Mika Riipi**, Governor of Lapland (Finland)
- **Oleg Kojemyako**, Acting Governor of Primorsky Krai (Russia)
- **Roman Kopin**, Governor of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug (Russia)
- **Sergey Nosov**, Governor of Magadan Oblast (Russia)
- **Sergey Furgal**, Governor of Khabarovskiy Krai (Russia)

## 1.3 Regional Coordinators Committee (RCC)

The Regional Coordinators Committee is a collegial executive body and shall be composed of regional delegates who are designated by each member of the Board of Governors from their home regions. The RCC shall be chaired by the Regional Coordinator from the Chairing region. By the end of 2018 the Regional Coordinators Committee was as follows:

- **Boltenkov Ivan Alexandrovich**, Deputy Governor of the Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia), Chairman of the Regional Coordinators Committee
- **Kang Heesung**, Director of Japan, Europe and America Division, Global Investment & Trade Bureau, Gangwon Province Government (Republic of Korea), Deputy chairman of the NF Regional Coordinators Committee



- Kirillin Gavryl Vitalievich, Minister of external relations and ethnic affairs of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Russia), Deputy chairman of the NF Regional Coordinators Committee
- Hulda Sif Hermannsdóttir, Assistant to the Mayor of Akureyri (Iceland), Deputy chairman of the NF Regional Coordinators Committee
- Isakov Eduard Vladimirovich, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District - Yugra Government Representative at Federation Council, Deputy chairman of the NF Regional Coordinators Committee
- Mazharov Aleksandr Viktorovich, Vice-Governor of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Director of International and Foreign Economic Department of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Russia)
- Korostelev Dmitry Anatolyevich, Minister of Economic Development and trade of Kamchatka Krai (Russia)
- Penyevskaia Irina Stanislavovna, Minister of Economic Development, Investment Policy and Innovation of Magadan oblast
- Kovalchuk Andrei Nikolaevich, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources of Khabarovskiy Krai, Head of the Department of Economics and Finance of Khabarovskiy Krai
- Korshenko Aleksandr Igorevich, Director of Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Primorsky krai (Russia)
- Kristiina Jokelainen, International Cooperation Manager, Regional Council of Lapland (Finland)
- Slugina Natalia Ivanovna, Head of International Relations Department of Governor and Government Administration, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug (Russia)
- Nikoosh Carlo, Senior Advisor, Climate Policy and Arctic Policy, Alaska, USA
- Tsykalov Anatoly Grigorievich, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Krasnoyarsk Krai (Russia)

#### 1.4 Working Groups

In order to engage regional governments to development of concrete actions for resolving challenges of northern regions in different fields and achieve measurable results of the project work in the Northern Forum it was proposed to change the mechanism of selection, implementation and evaluation of results of NF projects. For this purpose, 10 working groups were created at the level of ministries, departments, committees of the regions responsible for activities of governments in the region corresponding to the priorities of the Northern Forum to improve the management of project activities, analysis of issues and problems to be the

consolidation of intellectual, material and financial resources of members of the Northern Forum.

These working groups develop a work plan, conduct evaluation and selection of projects and carry on responsibility for a common policy of the Northern Forum on a certain area of work, allocate funding of activities of the working group, report to the Regional Coordinators Committee and Board of Governors.

Resolution # 184 approved the Working groups' composition in July 2016 during Regional Coordinators Committee meeting in Anchorage Alaska, US.

Resolution # 188 approved the Working groups' Chairs in March 2017 during Regional Coordinators Committee meeting in Arkhangelsk.

Working Group	Chair
Working group on Regional Adaptation to climate change	<b>Vladimir Vasiliev</b> , First Deputy Minister of external relations and ethnic affairs of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Russia)
Working Group on Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity	<b>Sakhamin Afanasiev</b> , Minister of Ecology, Nature Management and Forestry of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Russia
Working Group on Development of Energy in the North	<b>Nils Andreassen</b> , Executive Director, Institute of the North, Alaska, US
Working Group on Housing in the Arctic	<b>Sergey Kozupitsa</b> , Minister of Construction of Krasnoyarsk Krai
Working Group on Transportation in the North	<b>Aleksandr Shvora</b> , Director, Department of Transportation and Road Facilities of PrimorskyKrai
Working Group on Business Cooperation in the North	<b>Timo Rautajoki</b> , President and CEO, Lapland Chamber of Commerce
Working Group on Health in the North and Social Issues	<b>Aleksandr Tsaregorodtsev</b> , First Deputy Director, Ugra Research Institute of Information Technologies
Working Group on Culture	<b>Galina Alekseeva</b> , Chair, Primorsky Krai Civic Chamber
Working Group on Education and Research	<b>Feodosiya Gabysheva</b> , Deputy of the State Assembly of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) (Il Tumen), Chairman of the Committee on Science, Education, Mass Media and Affairs of Public Organizations of the State Assembly of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) (Il Tumen)
Working Group on Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions	<b>Valentina Kondratieva</b> , Head, Centre for Strategic Research of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

### 1.5 Business Partnership

Northern Forum has 12 business partners:

- Academy of the Northern Forum (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia)

- Arctic Portal (Akureyri, Iceland)
- Institute of the North (Alaska, USA)
- Arctic Business Relations LLC of Ukpeagvik Iñupiat Corporation »(UIC) (Alaska, USA)
- CMYK Master Polygraphy LLC (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia)
- SuluS LLC (St. Petersburg, Russia)
- Energy Saving Technologies LLC (Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia)
- Lapland Chamber of Commerce (Finland)
- French Polar Cluster (France)
- High North Center for Business and Governance of the Business School at Nord University (Norway)
- Hokkaido International Exchange and Cooperation Center (Japan)
- Alaska Native Heritage Center (Alaska, USA)

### 1.6 Secretariat

In 2013 in compliance with the Resolution of the Board of Governors # 153, the main Northern Forum Secretariat was relocated from Anchorage, Alaska, US, to Yakutsk, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia. The Non-commercial Partnership on Northern Territories' Development "The Northern Forum Academy" that is legally registered in Yakutsk was authorized to function as the Secretariat instead of the Northern Forum Inc.

The Northern Forum Secretariat is responsible for handling current activities and coordination of the regions' activities. The Secretariat operates under the direction of the Northern Forum Executive Director. At the XII General Assembly, Resolution # 174 approved the appointment of Mikhail Pogodaev to a position of Executive Director until next General Assembly.

## 2. NF MEETINGS

### 2.1 XIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN FORUM, April 11-12, 2018, Krasnoyarsk, Russia

XIII General Assembly of the Northern Forum took place on 11-12 April 2018 in Krasnoyarsk, Russia, and was organized by joint efforts of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai, Agency for Development of Northern Territories and Indigenous Support of Krasnoyarsk Krai, Northern Forum Secretariat. The General Assembly coincided with 15th Krasnoyarsk Economic Forum that was held from April 12 to April 14, 2018. The General Assembly included 2 roundtables devoted to project activities and NF strategy, open and executive meetings of the Regional Coordinators Committee, meeting of the Board of Governors. The overarching theme of the General Assembly was "The Northern Forum: Present and Future".

### 2.1.1 Quorum and Participants

10 member-regions took part in the General Assembly: Krasnoyarsk Krai, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug-Ugra, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Akureyri Municipality, Kamchatka Krai, Lapland, Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, as well as the newly admitted region – Khabarovsk Krai. In addition, a representative of Primorsky Krai without a signing authority attended the Assembly.

Furthermore, the Assembly was attended by representatives of Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Legislative Assembly of Krasnoyarsk Krai, Finnish Ministry of Environment, University of the Arctic, Norwegian Barents Secretariat, Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, Russian Geographical Society, Siberian Federal University, Ugra State University, Far Eastern Federal University, business-partners of the Northern Forum – Arctic Portal and High North Center for Business and Governance at Business School of Nord University, indigenous representatives, academia and business circles. Non-member regions interested in the work of the Northern Forum also were represented: Komi Republic, Saint Petersburg.

### 2.1.2 Meeting of the Board of Governors

Meeting of the Board of Governors took place on April 12 and was chaired by Acting Governor of Krasnoyarsk Krai Aleksandr Uss and moderated by Acting Vice Chairman of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai Yuriy Zakharinskiy.

The Board of Governors was represented by 10 member-regions:

- **Aleksandr Uss**, Acting Governor of Krasnoyarsk Krai
- **Mika Riipi**, County Governor of Lapland
- **Eduard Isakov**, Member of the Federation Council of Russian Federal Assembly, Representative of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra Executive Authority (by proxy)
- **Guðmundur Baldvin Guðmundsson**, Chairman, Akureyri Municipal Council (by proxy)
- **Yuriy Muradov**, First Deputy Governor of Nenets Autonomous Okrug – Chief of Staff, Nenets Autonomous Okrug Administration (by proxy)
- **Yuriy Chaika**, First Deputy Chairman for Investments and Priority Projects, Government of Khabarovsk Krai (by proxy)
- **Anna Otke**, Member of the Federation Council of Russian Federal Assembly, Representative of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug Executive Authority (by proxy)
- **Dmitriy Korostelev**, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kamchatka Krai (by proxy)

- **Vladimir Vasiliev**, Head, Department for External Relations of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (by proxy)
- **Ivan Timkin**, Head, External Economic Relations Office, Department of International and External Economic Relations of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (by proxy)

#### 2.1.3 Welcomes to participants

In addition to member-regions, the participants of XIII General Assembly were welcomed by:

- **Artur Chilingarov**, Special Presidential Representative for International Cooperation in the Arctic and Antarctic, President of Association of Polar Explorers
- **Nikolay Kharitonov**, Chairman, Committee for Regional Policy and Problems of the North and the Far East, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Andrey Klishas**, Representative of Krasnoyarsk Krai Executive Authority in the Federation Council of Russian Federal Assembly

#### 2.1.4 Speeches by invited participants

Remarks were also delivered by:

- **Valentina Diachkova**, Representative of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation in Krasnoyarsk
- **Hannele Pokka**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of the Environment of Finland, Chair of the Northern Forum 2001-2005
- **Aleksandr Pelyasov**, Director, Center of Northern and Arctic Economies, Council for the Study of Productive Forces, Chair, Russian Section of European Regional Science Association, Chair, Expert Council on Arctic and Antarctic under the Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Lars Kullerud**, President, University of the Arctic

Acting Vice Chairman of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai **Yuriy Zakharinskiy** delivered a report on outcomes of Krasnoyarsk Krai Chairmanship in the Northern Forum. Executive Director of the Northern Forum **Mikhail Pogodaev** also delivered a report on the Northern Forum activities during the reporting period.

The meeting adopted the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 and resolutions. Also, Walter Hickel Medal awarding ceremony was held during the meeting.

Further, the Northern Forum Chair for next 2-year period was elected. Chairmanship in the Northern Forum was passed from Krasnoyarsk Krai to Nenets Autonomous Okrug.

## 2.2 Regional Coordinators Committee Meeting

Open and executive meetings of the Regional Coordinators Committee (RCC) took place on April 11 and were moderated by Acting Vice Chairman of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai Yuriy Zakharinskiy.

The meeting was attended by member regions and Secretariat:

- Yuriy Zakharinskiy, Regional Coordinators Committee Chair – Acting Vice Chairman of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai
- Mikhail Pogodaev, Executive Director of the Northern Forum
- Irina Beznosova, Acting Director, Department of Public and External Relations of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra
- Vladimir Vasiliev, Head, Department for External Relations of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Guðmundur Baldvin Guðmundsson, Chairman, Akureyri Municipal Council
- Dmitriy Korostelev, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kamchatka Krai
- Anna Otke, Member of the Federation Council of Russian Federal Assembly, Representative of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug Executive Authority
- Pavel Rakhmilevich, Head, Department of Municipal Affairs and External Relations of Nenets Autonomous Okrug

RCC discussed the draft resolutions and Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2019 that were subject to the approval of the Board of Governors, as well as the maintenance of the Northern Forum website. In addition, they reviewed the main outcomes of Krasnoyarsk Krai Chairmanship in 2015-2018.

## 2.3 NF Roundtables

### 2.3.1 “Strategy of the Northern Forum: Present and Future”

Pursuant to Regional Coordinators Committee Resolution # 192 on the Northern Forum Strategy, Lapland took a leading role in developing a roadmap and draft strategy of the Northern Forum. These documents were discussed with representatives of the Northern Forum member regions on the margins of the Arctic Energy Summit in Helsinki and Arctic Circle International Assembly in Reykjavik.

The Roundtable was moderated by Acting Vice Chairman of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai Yuriy Zakharinskiy and Executive Director of the Northern Forum Mikhail Pogodaev.

Presentations were delivered by:

- **Mika Riipi**, County Governor of Lapland
- **Mikhail Pogodaev**, Executive Director of the Northern Forum
- **Hannele Pokka**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of the Environment of Finland, Chair of the Northern Forum 2001-2005
- **Vladimir Vasiliev**, Head, Department for External Relations of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- **Guðmundur Baldvin Guðmundsson**, Chairman, Akureyri Municipal Council
- **Eduard Isakov**, Member of the Federation Council of Russian Federal Assembly, Representative of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug Executive Authority
- **Dmitriy Korostelev**, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kamchatka Krai
- **Anna Otke**, Member of the Federation Council of Russian Federal Assembly, Representative of Chukotka Autonomous Okrug Executive Authority
- **Pavel Rakhmievich**, Head, Department of Municipal Affairs and External Relations of Nenets Autonomous Okrug
- **Ivan Timkin**, Head, External Economic Relations Office, Department of International and External Economic Relations of Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug
- **Aleksandr Pelyasov**, Director, Center of Northern and Arctic Economies, Council for the Study of Productive Forces, Chair, Russian Section of European Regional Science Association, Chair, Expert Council on Arctic and Antarctic under the Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Lars Kullerud**, President, University of the Arctic
- **Halldor Johannsson**, Executive Director, Arctic Portal
- **Andrey Kazakov**, Advisor, High North Center for Business and Governance, Business School at Nord University, Norway

Also, comments were made by **Andrey Martynenko**, Vice-Rector for Research and International Activities of Ugra State University, and **Galina Alekseeva**, Chairman of the Assembly of Peoples of Primorsky Krai.

Following the discussion, Resolution # 199 on the Northern Forum strategy was adopted. The draft strategy developed by Lapland was taken as a roadmap. County Governor of Lapland **Mika Riipi** concluded that we need to develop a concrete detailed plan of implementation.

### 2.3.2 The Northern Forum Projects Presentation

At the presentation member regions of the Northern Forum presented their projects for participation in the Call for Projects 2018. The regulations of the Call for Projects

developed by Sakha Republic (Yakutia) were approved by the Regional Coordinators Committee. Following the results of this Call, at the end of the year chosen projects will receive funding up to 10000 US dollars from the Northern Forum for project implementation. Projects should comply with the following focus areas of the Northern Forum Working Groups and should tangibly contribute to the socioeconomic development of participating regions:

1. Education and Research;
2. Culture;
3. Business Cooperation in the North;
4. Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity;
5. Regional Adaptation to Climate Change;
6. Development of Energy in the North;
7. Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions;
8. Transportation in the North;
9. Health in the North and Social Issues;
10. Housing in the Arctic.

The Roundtable was co-moderated by Acting Vice Chairman of the Government of Krasnoyarsk Krai **Yuriy Zakharinskiy** and Executive Director of the Northern Forum **Mikhail Pogodaev**.

7 member regions of the Northern Forum presented their projects – Krasnoyarsk Krai, Akureyri, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra, Kamchatka Krai, Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Primorsky Krai. Overall, presentations were made by 18 people:

- **Natalya Koptseva**, Head, Culturology Department, Siberian Federal University  
*“Institute of Peoples of the North”*
- **Igor Spiridenko**, Chairman, Russian Geographical Society Krasnoyarsk Krai Branch  
*“North Development Museum in Krasnoyarsk”*
- **Lars Kullerud**, President, University of the Arctic
- **Vera Cherkasova**, Director, Taimyr College  
*“Education of Arctic Indigenous Peoples– International Baccalaureate”*
- **Sakhamin Afanasiev**, Minister of Nature Protection of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Chair, Northern Forum Working Group on Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity  
*“Specially Protected Areas Development»*
- **Dmitriy Korostelev**, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kamchatka Krai  
*“Kamchatka Traditional Sled Dog Race “Beringia”*



- **Pavel Rakhmievich**, Head, Department of Municipal Affairs and External Relations of Nenets Autonomous Okrug  
*“Telemedicine”*
- **Valentina Kondratieva**, Head, Centre for Strategic Research of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Chair, Northern Forum Working Group on Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions  
*«Human in the Arctic”*
- **Halldor Johannsson**, Executive Director, Arctic Portal  
*“Arctic Business Directory”*
- **Lyudmila Alferova**, Director, Torum Maa Open Air Ethnographic Museum, President, Ugra Salvation, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Ugra  
*“Livelihood of Ob-Ugric Peoples Through the Mirror of Torum Maa Open Air Ethnographic Museum”*
- **Leonid Kolpaschikov**, Chief Researcher, Reserves of Taimyr  
*“Cooperation in the sphere of Specially Protected Areas”*
- **Aleksandr Vladimirov**, Phtysiatrist, Khanty-Mansiysk Clinical Tuberculosis Dispensary, NF Infectious Diseases Control Project Coordinator  
*“Infectious Diseases Control in Circumpolar Region: The Case of TB”*
- **Sergey Pikunov**, Head, Environment, Wildlife and Forestry Control and Monitoring Services Agency of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra  
*“International Ecological Action «To Save and Preserve” – 15 Years”*
- **Galina Alekseeva**, Chairman, Assembly of Peoples of Primorsky Krai, Professor, Far Eastern Federal University, Chair, Northern Forum Working Group on Culture  
*“Creation of Electronic Database. Cultural Heritage of the Arctic and Far Eastern Federal District of Russia”*
- **Konstantin Soloviev**, President, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra Ethnosport Federation  
*“International Ethnofestival of Peoples of the North”*
- **Andzhelika Gavrilieva**, Director, Berdigestyakh Secondary School  
*“Schools Partnership”*
- **Olga Stytsyuk**, Head, Otrazhenie Museum, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra  
*“International Ecological Project “Red Book Through Children’s Eyes”*
- **Natalya Chernova**, Deputy Chief Physician for Treatment, Surgut Clinical Psychoneurological Hospital  
*“Prevention of Addictions”, “Prevention of Suicides”*

### 2.3.3 "The Strategy of the Northern Forum - Strengthening the Voice of Northern Regions Governments"

On October 21, at 11:00-12:00 in the room Silfurberg A, the Northern Forum organized a breakout session as a part of the 2018 Arctic Circle Assembly. Agenda of the breakout session: "The Strategy of the Northern Forum - Strengthening the Voice of Northern Regions Governments".

Session was moderated by **Mikhail Pogodaev**, Executive Director of the Northern Forum Secretariat. The prestigious meeting hall Silfurberg offers 300 places, and at this place, in front of the huge amount of experts in the field of the North and Arctic, presentations on the Northern regions were given by **Ásthildur Sturludóttir** – Mayor of Akureyri (Iceland), **Sergey Filatov** – Director of the Department of Subsoil Use and Natural Resources of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra, **Sergey Kungurtsev** – Head of the Sector of International and Interregional Relations of the Organizational and Legal Department, Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, **Alexander Pilyasov** – professor, Director, Center of the North and Arctic Economy, Chairman of the Russian section of the European Regional Science Association and Chairman of the socio-economic section of the Expert Council for the Arctic and Antarctic under the Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the Arctic Portal Executive Director **Halldor Johennesson**, **Anna Shishigina**– Vice-Rector for Science and Innovations of the Graduate School of Innovation Management under the Head of the Republic of Sakha (Russia) and **Elena Antipina** – Director of the Arctic College of the Northern Nations of the Republic of Sakha (Russia).

Participants of the meeting discussed prepared by the regional experts amendments to the draft of the Northern Forum strategy written by Lapland, strategic cooperation issues and future cooperation plans.

## 2.4 Working Meetings

- [January 15-17, 2018 – Project «APPLICATE» General Assembly](#)

The project General Assembly 2018 was held on the 15-17 January 2018 in Barcelona, organised by AWI and BSC. The meeting included reports on progress by WP leaders, presentations from companion projects in the EU-Arctic Cluster, a panel discussion with external stakeholders, keynote lectures by Scientific Advisory Board members Inger Hanssen-Bauer (Met Norway) and Jean-Noel Thepaut (ECMWF) and presentations by early career scientists on their latest research results. A side meeting with the stakeholders in the User Group was also held. Parallel team meetings were held by the WP leaders to update on progress and discuss pending issues. The meeting included also opportunities for networking: an ice-breaker reception and a meeting dinner.

- [January 21-26, 2018 – Arctic Frontiers 2018 – Connecting the Arctic, Tromso, Norway](#). Within the framework of the conference, representatives of the Northern Forum regions from Lapland, Alaska, Russia, Iceland met to discuss the draft strategy of the Northern Forum, which will be submitted to the General Assembly of the Northern Forum in Krasnoyarsk in April 2018. The meeting was attended by the Governor of Lapland Mika Riipi, the Mayor of Akureyri Eiríkur Björn Björgvinsson, the Executive Director of the Northern Forum Mikhail Pogodaev, the Director of the Institute of the North from Alaska Nils Andreassen and the Senior Adviser of the Regional Council of Lapland Kristiina Jokelainen.
- [February 15, 2018 – The fourth scientific and practical conference "School of Life in the North"](#) was held within the framework of the "Partnership of Schools" project in Namsy village, Sakha Republic, Russia. This year, the conference was held in two places at the same time: in the Yakutsk City National Gymnasium and N.Okhlopkov Nam Regional Gymnasium. Within the framework of the conference, from February 14 to March 17, 2018, there is also an online Olympiad "School of Life in the North". The sessions included students' research in the following areas: History, Geography, Art, Science and Technology, Ecology, Languages. The students of the NEFU and specialists from ministries, departments, the council of YCNG parents, as well as the representatives of the Northern Forum took part in the conference. Participants during the presentation of works demonstrated both the communication skills in English and skills in defending the research topics. Based on the results of the SPC "School of Life in the North" participants and jury members noted the high level of the organization of the conference. According to the jury, the research topics were topical, reflected their practical importance and showed the growing interest of students in research activities.
- [February 26-28, 2018 – "Model of the Northern Forum"](#). A business game called "Model of the Northern Forum" was held February 26-28, 2018 at the NEFU Academic Board Hall under joint initiative of the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) and the Northern Forum. The "Model of the Northern Forum" is an exciting business game, during which the participants reproduce the work of the real Northern Forum for several days. There will be five working groups at the event:

  - Development of Energy in the North Working Group;
  - Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic regions Working Group;
  - Business Cooperation in the North Working Group;

- Transportation in the North Working Group;
- Education and Research Working Group.

The ultimate goal of each group is to develop a project under the working group's action line, which will be later presented at the closing of the event.

- [February 27 – March 2, 2018 года – UIC Arctic Business Development Tour](#) was hosted by Ukpeagvik Iñupiat Corporation. The four-day program includes Arctic transportation and infrastructure development focused discussions and tours in the northern most community of the United States – Barrow, Alaska, to explore partnership opportunities, shipping and resource development, communications and connections, business strategies and plans that will increase knowledge and the richness of the Arctic. We think that Arctic investment is a responsible thing to do for our future generations and strongly agree that outside investment with inside support is the key for Arctic infrastructure development. Leaders from Arctic communities, businesses, governmental organizations, scientists and investors to team with UIC on responsibly developing, improving and constructing future Arctic infrastructure have met to discuss:
  - Challenges of Sustainable Business Development in the Arctic
  - Partnerships and Investment Opportunities
  - Future of Arctic Ports and Shipping
  - Native-to-Native Business and Economic Development Opportunities
  - Arctic Energy and Infrastructure Development

The Northern Forum was represented by Dmitry Korostelev, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kamchatka Krai (Russia) and Vladimir Syromyatnikov, Director of Energy Saving Technologies LLC (Sakha Republic).

- [March 14 – 15, 2018 – International Inclusive SMART-ART Festival “Show Yourself”](#), Yakutsk, Russia. The aim of the festival is to form an open inclusive educational space in the Arctic countries. The peculiarity of the festival is that it unites in a single inclusive team children with and without disabilities. Olga Timofeeva-Tereshkina, Deputy Executive Director of the Northern Forum, welcomed the SMART-ART Festival participants.
- [March 14-15, 2018 - V International Conference “Fishing in the Arctic: Modern Challenges, International Practice, Prospectives”](#), Murmansk, Russia.
- [March 15, 2018 – The 5th Interregional and Cross-border Cooperation Working Group of Intergovernmental Norwegian-Russian Commission on Economic, Industrial and Scientific-Technical Cooperation under Co-Chairmanship of the Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation – Head of the Federal Agency of State Property Management D.V.Pristanskov](#)

and the State Secretary of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fishing of Norway, R. Angelvik, Murmansk, Russia.

- 06-10 April 2018 – ARCTICKILLS International Workshop and Competitions were held in Chersky village, Nizhnekolymsky District, Russia. Chersky village hosted the International Workshop “Reindeer Herding as a Cornerstone of Indigenous Peoples’ Livelihood in the Arctic” during which competitions in “Reindeer Herder – Machinery Operator” competence took place, basis for including this competence in ARCTICKILLS Initiative Competencies Register was developed.

The workshop was initiated and organized by Arctic College of the Peoples of the North (Chersky village, Nizhnekolymsky District), Northern Forum, Nizhnekolymsky District Administration, International Center for Reindeer Husbandry, Association of World Reindeer Herders, Russian Federation Reindeer Herders Association, Sakha Republic Ministry of Education and Science.

Workshop Participants:

1. Reindeer herders from 16 Arctic regions across Russian Federation and the world (Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, Arkhangelsk Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Sakhalin Oblast, Kamchatka Krai, Alaska (USA), Sweden, Norway, Finland, Greenland (Denmark), Canada, Sakha Republic (Yakutia). Per two people from one region, from Sakha Republic (Yakutia) – per two persons from 13 Arctic districts. TOTAL: 56 people.
  2. Invited guests and experts, total of 15 persons.
- July 11, 2018, – Meeting with Natalia Slugina, Head of Chukotka International Relations Department, NF Regional Coordinator. Natalia Slugina, Head of Chukotka International Relations Department, NF Regional Coordinator, visited Yakutsk to discuss opportunities for strengthening cooperation between Chukotka and Sakha Republic (Yakutia), including Chukotka's engagement in the Northern Forum activities.

During her visit to Yakutsk, Natalia Slugina had a meeting at the Ministry of External Relations and Ethnic Affairs of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) with First Deputy Minister Vladimir Vasiliev, Russian MFA Representative in Yakutsk Nikolay Diakonov, First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) Mikhail Prisyazhny and Acting Deputy Executive Director of the Northern Forum Olga Timofeeva-Tereshkina. The meeting discussed increasing the cooperation as part of the implementation of Agreement on trade, economic, research, social and cultural cooperation

between the Government of Sakha Republic and Government of Chukotka, as well as Chukotka's participation in the work of the Northern Forum.

Natalia Slugina also met with the Rector of M.K. Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University Evgenia Mikhailova. She thanked the university for cooperation, recognized their extensive work on specialists training and expressed the hope to work together to broaden the scope of education programs.

- [8-10 June 2018 – Ugra International Festival of Indigenous Handicrafts of the World.](#)

X Ugra International Festival of Indigenous Handicrafts of the World 2018 was held in Khanty-Mansiysk under the auspices of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO and Northern Forum.

The Festival was organized by the Government of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra.

The authority in charge of holding the Festival on the part of Autonomous Okrug's Government: Department for Culture of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra.

The co-organizers of the Festival: Khanty-Mansiysk City Administration and Khanty-Mansiysky District Administration.

Responsible institution for organizing and holding the Festival: Centre of Folk Arts and Crafts.

The Festival was held with the support of the following public organizations: Folk Arts and Design Association, Ugra Folk Arts Support and Development Non-Profit Foundation, Fund “Ugra Centre for Civil and Social Initiatives”, Ethnosport Federation of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra (city of Khanty-Mansiysk), “Neskuchayuchie Ruchki” Public Organization for Supporting People with Disabilities (city of Surgut), with the assistance of state agencies of Department for Culture.

The Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra Natalya Komarova emphasized that this year the Festival will pay special attention to families developing traditional crafts. Governor also underlined the capacity provided for people with disabilities on the Festival: “This is a reasonable idea and the Government will provide all-round support to this area”. Another new component of the Festival was Russian Wooden Architecture Research Conference.

The Northern Forum was represented by Arkadiy Diodorov, who stressed that Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug is a driving force for bringing together the regions to preserve indigenous cultures and traditions. However, the organization includes 14 regions from 5 countries. He also delivered the welcome address of the Northern Forum Executive Director Mikhail

Pogodaev. It underlined that Ugra Festival 2018 is included in the events program of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People declared by UN General Assembly, and is one of the UNESCO priorities in the area of cultural diversity advancement and development. We always supported and will continue supporting the continuity of generations based on preserving, developing and promoting indigenous traditions and cultures.

Mikhail Pogodaev expressed gratitude to the Ugra Governor Natalya Komarova, Okrug's Government for continued recognition and support of the Northern Forum activities: "Your contribution to our work is priceless. We appreciate your tremendous support and sincerely hope for continued and enhanced cooperation".

June 30, 2018 – Memorandum of Understanding on Ethnosport signed by Ethnosport World Society (EWS), Northern Forum, UgraMegaSport and Save Ugra public organization. Ethnosport World Society (EWS), Northern Forum, UgraMegaSport and Save Ugra public organization signed a Memorandum of Understanding and agreed to jointly promote the preservation, development, and popularization of traditional games and ethnosport as an integral part of the intangible cultural heritage, to support each other, and to render assistance in creating a platform for information and knowledge exchange in these fields. The Memorandum was signed on 30 June 2018 in Nefteyugansk during the meeting chaired by the Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra Natalya Komarova. The document was signed by President of Ethnosport World Society Alexey Kylasov, Executive Director of the Northern Forum Mikhail Pogodaev, Director of UgraMegaSport Valery Radchenko and President of Save Ugra public organization Lyudmila Alfeyorova.

- [30 June 2018 – Ugra Governor's Cup on Oblas Rowing](#)

This is one of the mass ethnosport events in Autonomous Okrug. Last year the competitions were awarded third place in Russian Event Awards in the category "Tourism Event in Sports". It was also granted the "National Event" status.

This year the competitions brought together a record number of participants – more than 200 ethnosportsman not only from Ugra and Russia, but also from Hungary, China, Norway, Brazil, Iran, Spain, Canada, Congo, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Nigeria, Portugal, USA, France, Malaysia and Poland gathered in Nefteyugansky District.

At the event opening, Natalya Komarova emphasized that these competitions are certainly not only sporting activity, but also one of the events aimed at culture preservation.

The President of World Ethnosport Society Alexey Kylasov also congratulated the participants. The Northern Forum Executive Director Mikhail Pogodaev stressed that today Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug has become a centre of ethnosport development: “I think that this is a huge achievement of region’s leadership and Ugra people. Your region is leading in preservation of indigenous traditions and is an example for all Northern regions. We on our part will strongly support such initiatives». He also gave Natalya Komarova the Northern Forum’s Walter Hickel Medal. The decision to award the Governor was made at the Northern Forum General Assembly in Krasnoyarsk in April 2018.

- [August 12 - 15, 2018, Copenhagen, Denmark – 17th International Congress on Circumpolar Health](#). The researchers of Sakha Republic Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry participated in science program with three reports. The report on TB Causative Agent Circulating in Sakha Republic (Yakutia) was marked as the best research poster. Sascha Wilk Michelsen, ICS-TB Chair, MD, PhD, (Denmark Department of Infectious Disease Immunology) led a meeting of ICS-TB Working Group that identified the priority work areas.

- [August 22, 2018 – Meeting with a Finnish delegation in Yakutsk](#)  
Executive Director of the Northern Forum Mikhail Pogodaev held a meeting with the head of the Helsinki City Education Department Liisa Pohjolainen, the principal of Ressu IB World School Ari Huovinen, and the senior lecturer of the Ressu Oksana Mustonen in Yakutsk, Sakha Republic.

The participants of the meeting discussed the projects of the Northern Forum in the field of education. Particular attention was paid to the issue of partnership between schools of two countries. Also, the parties discussed the project of the International Arctic School (IAS) and the implementation of the project of the Arctic Council "Children of the Arctic".

It is worth noting that the idea of this innovative project was originally created Yakutia, where specialists, ten years ago, researched the problems of nomadic education and the preservation of small schools in the rural areas.

Partnership of schools. The project, led by the Republic of Sakha, is dedicated to the development of the partnership of schools in the North. The leading organization is the Yakut State National Gymnasium, within the framework of the project, the leading own project "School of Life in the North".



As part of the project, the Yakut National City Gymnasium cooperates with West High School, Romig Middle School, Turnagain Elementary School (Alaska) and School No. 3 (Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug).

In addition, Tatyana Martynova, director of the State Specialized Correctional School "Boarding School", presented the Northern Forum project "Inclusive SMART-ART Festival" Show yourself! "

International inclusive SMART-ART festival "Show yourself!" Is held for institutions that implement inclusive education and special (correctional) schools.

As a result of the meeting, agreements were reached to support projects and cooperation between the schools of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) and the city of Helsinki, the Republic of Finland.

- [August 29-31, 2018 – International seminar "Atlas of renewable energy in the Arctic "](#) was held by Singapore National University on the project of the Arctic Council AREA with the participation of representatives of the Arctic states: USA, Canada, Russia, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Sweden, as well as experts from countries of Southeast Asia - Singapore, Philippines, Myanmar, Indonesia. This project was initiated by the United States, Canada, and Gwich'in Council International (GCI) and one of projects of the Arctic Council Working Group on Sustainable Development.

The seminar was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore and organized by the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore, in cooperation with the SDWG AREA project management is working towards how to effectively use a renewable energy in Arctic regions. In the recent years, Singapore has been contributing to the work of this international intergovernmental forum by supporting various Arctic Council projects in the conservation of Arctic flora and fauna, and as one of the observers in the Arctic Council, was contributing to the education and sustainable development in the Arctic. The Energy Studies Institute, Singapore National University, is doing a great deal of research on issues related to climate change, transit energy and the use of new technologies in the field of renewable energy sources, including in extreme Arctic conditions. During the seminar, participants shared their experience in the field of development of renewable energy in the Arctic and in the countries of Southeast Asia, and also discussed the prospects of the AREA project. Participants came to the conclusion that, despite the great differences between the Arctic states and the countries of Southeast Asia, there are many common problems. First of all, we are talking about remoteness from the central power networks, the use of expensive diesel fuel for energy generation, the isolated,

"island" principle of locating settlements and, accordingly, energy infrastructure facilities. Also, extreme climatic conditions (low temperatures in the Arctic and frequent hurricanes in the Southeast Asia), a high level of tariffs for energy services, a low level of development of the overall infrastructure, the availability of indigenous people leading a traditional way of life, etc.

One of the participants of the AREA project is the international organization of governors of the northern regions "Northern Forum" and the Executive Director of the Northern Forum Mikhail Pogodaev gave a presentation, where he talked about international cooperation between the Northern regions and told about its main projects, including the development of renewable energy in an isolated and remote northern settlements. The governments of the northern regions are directly interested in developing infrastructure in their territories and doing a great job of ensuring access of the population of the North to energy and heat networks. At the same time, it is very important to exchange with gained experience and best practices in the area of renewable energy development. The Northern Forum has long been engaged in projects for the development of alternative energy. The Northern regions of the Scandinavian countries, Canada, Alaska and other Russian regions, including the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, the Kamchatka Krai, the Murmansk Region, the Nenets Autonomous Okrug, the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug and others have a great positive experience in the development of renewable energy. It should be noted that the top ten countries with the best indicators for the use of alternative energy are the 5 countries of the Arctic Council, mainly from Northern Europe. The first ranking country is Iceland, where about 80% of consumption falls on renewable energy sources.

Participants also discussed the issues of improving international, national, regional and local legislation in the field of tariff policy, regulating the development of renewable energy and sharing experience in this area.

The Executive Director of the Northern Forum, Mikhail Pogodaev met with Mr. Sam Tan, the Minister of Human Resources of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Singapore, the representative of Singapore in the Arctic Council, cooperation between Singapore and the Northern Forum on various topics within the framework of the Arctic Council. They discussed the cooperation in education, sustainable development and conservation of northern nature. In March 2018, the President of the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North invited Mr. Sam Tan to visit Salekhard and be a guest of honor in the meeting of the Council of the Association "Reindeer

Herders of the World", where Mr. Sam Tan was able to get acquainted with the indigenous people of the Arctic.

- [September 7-8, 2018 - Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions](#)

Lippo 2018 – Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions collected over 75 Indigenous and 70 local fishermen around the world to Tornio, Finland over three days of discussions and demonstrations of cultural heritage, climate change, ecological restoration and other issues related to traditional northern fisheries. We had delegations from the Indigenous peoples and other delegates of Taiwan, Ainu of Japan, Maori of Aotearoa – New Zealand, Siberia, Greenland, Alaska, USA, UK, Canadian First Nations, Sámi delegates from Finland, Russia and Sweden as well as Finnish and other fishermen around Europe.

The 2020 Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions is slated for Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, Siberia, Russia, in September 2020.

- [October 6-10, 2018 - IX Youth Ecological Forum \(YEF\) "The Voice of Youth of Northern Regions for Biodiversity Conservation"](#).

Since 2001, the YEF has been organized on a regular basis by the international organization of the northern regions "The Northern Forum" (Executive Director Mikhail Pogodaev), on places provided by the member regions of the Northern Forum. This year the YEF is organized with the full support of the Government of the province of Lapland, represented by the Governor Mika Riipi and the University of Lapland, which took over the bulk of the preparations by providing the Forum participants with premises for the events and hotels for accommodation.

26 representatives of the youth - school students from Japan, Finland and Russia - participated in the Forum. The lectures for them were delivered by experts and representatives of the Government of Lapland, other relevant ministries and departments of Finland, the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug - Ugra, the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region County, and Hokkaido Province.

The goal of the YEF is to bring together young people with the intention to promote sustainable development and to preserve the Arctic for future generations. Among the Forum's tasks are studying the environmental protection experience of youth environmental organizations and associations from different countries and regions, as well as encouraging the youth participation in environmental protection measures and actions, with the aim of attracting authorities' attention to environmental problems. Within the framework of the YEF program there were held a paper contest and a team

environmental projects presentation competition, as well as the YEF emblem project competition.

This time, the YEF was organized back to back with major international environmental events - the Youth Environmental Summit and the Arctic Biodiversity Congress, organized by the working group of the Arctic Council for the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF). In Rovaniemi, prominent international experts on the ecology of the Arctic and the world's northern regions gathered, along with observers of the Arctic Council and representatives of the member countries' environmental institutions.

It is worth noting that the member regions of the Northern Forum give considerable attention to the ecological problems. Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug (Ex-Governor Dmitry Kobylkin and Governor Dmitry Artyukhov) hosted the Youth Eco-Forum in 2017. In 2017, the main topic of the Forum was "The Arctic is our home".

Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug (Governor Natalia Komarova) is the organizer of the international project "Competition-exhibition of children's creativity "The Red Book through the Eyes of Children", which is implemented in the framework of the International Ecological Action "To Save and Preserve" under the auspices of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO and the international organization of Northern regions "Northern Forum".

The elected Head of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Russia) Aisen Nikolaev has devoted his first Decree to the ecological well-being of the region.

All the member regions of the Northern Forum are actively working on environmental issues, combining the experience of solving them at the international interregional level. As evidence of it, on the 8th of October, topical environmental issues of the northern regions will be discussed here, in Rovaniemi, within the framework of the Northern Forum Working Group's meeting, preceding the opening of the Arctic Biodiversity Congress. The Working Group is chaired by the Minister of Ecology, Nature Management and Forestry of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Sakhamin Afanasiev.

- [October 8, 2018 r. - Northern Forum's Working Group on Environment and Biodiversity Meeting](#). On October 8th a meeting of the Northern Forum Biodiversity Conservation and Environmental Protection Working Group was organized. This meeting was held as a part of the Arctic Biodiversity Congress – 2018, and moderated by the Chairman of the Working Group, Minister of Ecology, Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) Sakhamin Afanasyev. Participants of the meeting: Vladimir Pushkarev, deputy of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation,

deputy chairman of the State Duma Committee on Regional Policy and the Problems of the North and the Far East; Mikhail Pogodaev, Executive Director of the Northern Forum; Sergey Pikunov, the Head of the Service for Control and Supervision of the Environment, Wildlife Objects and Forest Relations of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra; Yakov Sivtsev, Head of the Directorate of Biological Resources at the Ministry of Ecology, Nature Management and Forestry of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia); Larisa Kruglova, Head of the Department for the Development of Ecological Culture of the Service for Control and Supervision in the Field of Environmental Protection, Wildlife Objects and Forest Relations of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Yugra; Natalia Zubko, Deputy Head of the International Cooperation Department of the Department of Public and External Relations; Olga Stytsyuk, the coordinator of the project “The Red Book through the Eyes of Children” of the international organization of the northern regions “Northern Forum”; Sabina Kapshanova, Chief Specialist of the Department for the Implementation of Industrial Policy and Export Support of the Department of International and Foreign Economic Relations of the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous District.

The participants of the Working Group meeting reviewed presentations of the Northern Forum member regions representatives on the biodiversity conservation and global climate change, also reviewed contest applications for the Northern Forum grants for environmental protection projects. Furthermore, they discussed organizational issues for the future work plan of the Northern Forum on biodiversity conservation and environmental protection.

- [October 9, 2018 – Meeting with a LEO Network](#). On October 9 the Youth Eco Forum (YEF) participants visited lecture by Mike Brook, the lead software architect for LEO Network.

LEO is a network of local observers and topic experts who share knowledge about unusual animal, environment, and weather events. With LEO, you can connect with others in your community, share observations, raise awareness, and find answers about significant environmental events. You can also engage with topic experts in many different organizations and become part of a broader observer community.

Arctic communities were among the first to experience significant impacts from climate change. In 2009, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) established the Center for Climate and Health to help describe connections between climate change, environmental impacts, and health effects. In 2012, LEO Network was launched as a tool to help the tribal health

system and local observers to share information about climate and other drivers of environmental change.

In 2015, ANTHC and Resource Data Inc. (RDI) developed LEO App to increase access and improve data management and analytical features of the network. In the same year, LEO Network was selected as a model program under the United States Chairmanship of the Arctic Council, to help raise awareness and improve communication about climate change in the circumpolar region. Today LEO Network is continuing to evolve and to build new partnerships with local observers - across the Arctic and around the world.

LEO Network's presentation was especially interesting to that YEF participants, who made a report on Arctic biodiversity. For example, delegation from Abiy district (Sakha republic, Russia) during the YEF had a report on Crane-like of the North-East of Yakutia (on the example of the Abyiskiy lowland), and discussed this topic with Mike Brook.

- [October 21, 2018 – Roundtable "The Strategy of the Northern Forum - Strengthening the Voice of Northern Regions Governments", Reykjavik, Iceland](#)  
On Sunday, October 21 at 11:00-12:00 in the room Silfurberg A, the Northern Forum organized a breakout session as a part of the 2018 Arctic Circle Assembly. Agenda of the breakout session: "The Strategy of the Northern Forum - Strengthening the Voice of Northern Regions Governments".  
Session was moderated by Mikhail Pogodaev, Executive Director of the Northern Forum Secretariat. The prestigious meeting hall Silfurberg offers 300 places, and at this place, in front of the huge amount of experts in the field of the North and Arctic, presentations on the Northern regions were given by Ásthildur Sturludóttir – Mayor of Akureyri (Iceland), Sergey Filatov – Director of the Department of Subsoil Use and Natural Resources of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Ugra, Sergey Kungurtsev – Head of the Sector of International and Interregional Relations of the Organizational and Legal Department, Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Alexander Pilyasov – professor, Director, Center of the North and Arctic Economy, Chairman of the Russian section of the European Regional Science Association and Chairman of the socio-economic section of the Expert Council for the Arctic and Antarctic under the Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the Arctic Portal Executive Director Halldor Johannesson, Anna Shishigina – Vice-Rector for Science and Innovations of the Graduate School of Innovation Management under the Head of the Republic of Sakha (Russia) and Elena Antipina –

Director of the Arctic College of the Northern Nations of the Republic of Sakha (Russia).

Participants of the meeting discussed prepared by the regional experts amendments to the draft of the Northern Forum strategy written by Lapland, strategic cooperation issues and future cooperation plans.

- [October 25-26, 2018, Berlin - Second Arctic Science Ministerial \(ASM2\)](#). The European Commission, Finland and Germany co-hosted the 2nd Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM 2) on 25-26 October 2018 in Berlin. The aims of this 2nd ministerial meeting are to promote the results of the deliverables agreed at the 1st Arctic Science Ministerial, increase capacity to respond to major societal challenges in the Arctic, encourage further scientific cooperation among a large number of countries and representatives of indigenous peoples. Northern Forum was represented by Executive director Mikhail Pogodaev.

Researching arctic challenges

Three themes were identified where improved and more closely coordinated international scientific cooperation will advance the understanding of the impacts of change in the Arctic and the ability to respond to these changes:

- Strengthening, integrating and sustaining Arctic observations, facilitating access to Arctic data, and sharing Arctic research infrastructure;
- Understanding the regional and global dynamics of Arctic change;
- Assessing the vulnerability and building resilience of Arctic environments and societies.

### 3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Currently the Northern Forum carries out the following project activities:

1. Renewable energy sources. Power supply for isolated settlements of northern regions
2. Prevention of addictions
3. Infectious diseases control
4. Drug resistant TB monitoring in circumpolar Russia
5. Suicide prevention
6. Telemedicine
7. Schools Partnership
8. Brown Bear Working Group

9. Youth Ecological Forum
10. Working Group on Water and Climate Change
11. Northern Zoos Cooperation
12. Development of Specially Protected Areas
13. Bears in The Rites and Traditions of the indigenous peoples of the North
14. Festival of Northern Fishing
15. International Ecological Action "To save and to preserve"
16. Human in the Arctic
17. International Arctic School
18. International Arctic Center of Culture and Arts
19. Red Book Through the Eyes of Children
20. Model of the Northern Forum

Active projects

### **3.1 1. Renewable energy sources. Power supply for isolated settlements of northern regions**

#### **Project coordinator:**

Nikolai Duraev, First Deputy Minister of Housing and Communal Services and Energy of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)

#### **Brief information:**

The project, originally announced by Yukon (Canada), focuses on sustainable energy issues - electricity and heat. The use of such in the extreme North is extremely promising, given the complexity and high cost of using classical energy, and is also a "regional response" to the global initiative of the wider application of "green technologies".

#### **Работа в 2018 г.:**

On August 29-31, 2018, an International seminar "Atlas of renewable energy in the Arctic " was held by Singapore National University on the project of the Arctic Council AREA with the participation of representatives of the Arctic states: USA, Canada, Russia, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Sweden, as well as experts from countries of Southeast Asia - Singapore, Philippines, Myanmar, Indonesia. This project was initiated by the United States, Canada, and Gwich'in Council



International (GCI) and one of projects of the Arctic Council Working Group on Sustainable Development.

The seminar was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore and organized by the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore, in cooperation with the SDWG AREA project management is working towards how to effectively use a renewable energy in Arctic regions. In the recent years, Singapore has been contributing to the work of this international intergovernmental forum by supporting various Arctic Council projects in the conservation of Arctic flora and fauna, and as one of the observers in the Arctic Council, was contributing to the education and sustainable development in the Arctic. The Energy Studies Institute, Singapore National University, is doing a great deal of research on issues related to climate change, transit energy and the use of new technologies in the field of renewable energy sources, including in extreme Arctic conditions.

During the seminar, participants shared their experience in the field of development of renewable energy in the Arctic and in the countries of Southeast Asia, and also discussed the prospects of the AREA project. Participants came to the conclusion that, despite the great differences between the Arctic states and the countries of Southeast Asia, there are many common problems. First of all, we are talking about remoteness from the central power networks, the use of expensive diesel fuel for energy generation, the isolated, "island" principle of locating settlements and, accordingly, energy infrastructure facilities. Also, extreme climatic conditions (low temperatures in the Arctic and frequent hurricanes in the Southeast Asia), a high level of tariffs for energy services, a low level of development of the overall infrastructure, the availability of indigenous people leading a traditional way of life, etc.

One of the participants of the AREA project is the international organization of governors of the northern regions "Northern Forum" and the Executive Director of the Northern Forum Mikhail Pogodaev gave a presentation, where he he talked about international cooperation between the Northern regions and told about its main projects, including the development of renewable energy in an isolated and remote northern settlements. The governments of the northern regions are directly interested in developing infrastructure in their territories and doing a great job of ensuring access of the population of the North to energy and heat networks. At the same time, it is very important to exchange with gained experience and best practices in the area of renewable energy development. The Northern Forum has long been engaged in projects for the development of alternative energy. The Northern regions of the Scandinavian countries, Canada, Alaska and other Russian regions, including the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, the Kamchatka Krai, the Murmansk Region, the Nenets Autonomous Okrug, the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug and others have a great positive experience in

the development of renewable energy. It should be noted that the top ten countries with the best indicators for the use of alternative energy are the 5 countries of the Arctic Council, mainly from Northern Europe. The first ranking country is Iceland, where about 80% of consumption falls on renewable energy sources.

Participants also discussed the issues of improving international, national, regional and local legislation in the field of tariff policy, regulating the development of renewable energy and sharing experience in this area.

The Executive Director of the Northern Forum, Mikhail Pogodaev met with Mr. Sam Tan, the Minister of Human Resources of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Singapore, the representative of Singapore in the Arctic Council, cooperation between Singapore and the Northern Forum on various topics within the framework of the Arctic Council. They discussed the cooperation in education, sustainable development and conservation of northern nature. In March 2018, the President of the Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North invited Mr. Sam Tan to visit Salekhard and be a guest of honor in the meeting of the Council of the Association "Reindeer Herders of the World", where Mr. Sam Tan was able to get acquainted with the indigenous people of the Arctic.

On October 20, 2018, a meeting on "The Arctic Renewable Energy Atlas (Area) Project: Key Takeaways from The Singapore Workshop" was organized by the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore, The Institute of the North as a side event of 2018 Arctic Circle Assembly. Northern Forum was represented by its Executive director Mikhail Pogodaev

### **3.2 Red Book Through the Eyes of Children**

International project "Competition-exhibition of children's creativity "Red Book Through the Eyes of Children" in the framework of the International Ecological Action "To Save and Preserve" under the aegis of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, the Northern Forum.

#### **Project Coordinator:**

Olga Stytsyuk, Director of the Local History Museum "Otrazheniye" ("Reflection") "Culture and Sports Center", History Teacher and Secondary School # 7, (Talinka, Oktyabrsky District, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Ugra)

#### **Project Member Regions:**

*Foreign countries, Northern Forum member regions:*

#### **Project's Goal:**

Formation of ecological culture and active life position of the younger generation in relation to the problem of reducing the species diversity of flora and fauna of individual regions and the planet as a whole.

### **Project Objectives:**

- attracting the attention of the world community to the existing problems of environmental protection;
- development of international children's cooperation in the field of ecology through the exchange of experience in the implementation of a variety of creative and environmental activities;
- popularization of the careful attitude to the natural resources of the planet, Russia and its small homeland by means of artistic visual creativity;
- education of children from different countries and regions with respect to common human values in accordance with the principle of preservation of cultural and natural diversity;
- stimulation and development of creative potential of students on the basis of studying natural and historical and cultural heritage;
- intensification of propaganda of conservation of certain species of flora and fauna as integral parts of the sustainable development of whole natural complexes.

### **Current Activity:**

Reception and registration of creative works, work with the jury and eco-volunteers, a selection of aphorisms. Publication of the collection of the best creative works (laureates) of the Project. Conducting traveling exhibitions, excursions and presentations at events of different levels in the cities of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug-Ugra and the Russian Federation, near and far abroad (by agreement). Distribution of award documents based on the results of the Project.

### **Results Achieved:**

- Cooperation is developing between 74 Russian regions and 13 project countries (Hungary, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Turkey, Ukraine, the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Sweden, the Republic of Estonia) for project implementation.

## **3.3 International Arctic School**

### **Project coordinator:**

Feodosiya Gabysheva, Deputy of the State Assembly of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) (Il Tumen), Chairman of the Committee on Science, Education, Mass

Media and Affairs of Public Organizations of the State Assembly of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) (Il Tumen)

### **Project's Goal**

Integration of federal and international standards in the field of education for the preservation and development of human capital in the Arctic and the North

### **Mission of the project:**

Development of the human resources potential of the countries of the Arctic region as the main factor of economic and social development in the context of cross-border cooperation

### **Tasks:**

Creation of an innovative model of the School to ensure quality education, successful adaptation and comprehensive development of the learning countries of the Arctic region through the individualization of the educational process, the formation of universal educational activities and key competencies of the graduate.

Development and self-development of participants in the educational process through networking with educational institutions in Russia and the world, the organization of a system of continuing education and international cooperation.

The development of international regional cooperation through the international organizations of the United Nations, UNESCO, the Arctic Council, the Northern Forum and the organization of creative interaction (including the educational programs of partner schools abroad, educational exchange projects for schoolchildren), the integration of the basic values of Arctic civilization into universal values in the educational process.

### **Implementation mechanism:**

Decree of the Head of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) of August 18, 2014 No. 2826 "On the socio-economic development of the city of Yakutsk - the capital of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) for the period 2015-2019".

The Decree of the Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) of November 5, 2015 No. 417 "On the conclusion of an agreement on public-private partnerships for the design, creation and maintenance of pre-school, general, additional education and culture facilities in the urban district" Yakutsk "of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)».

Decree of the Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) of November 6, 2014 No. 1260-r "On approval of the Comprehensive Program (" road map ") for the establishment of the International Arctic School in the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)"

## **Work done in 2018**

A meeting of the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) was organized in Rovaniemi, Finland, on October 29, 2018.

A delegation from the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) took part in this meeting on behalf of the Northern Forum. The delegation was composed of Feodosia Gabysheva, Deputy of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen), Chairman of the Committee on Science, Education, Mass Media and Affairs of Public Organizations of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen), Mikhail Pogodaev, Executive Director of the Northern Forum Secretariat, Natalia Sitnikova, Director of Educational programs of the International Baccalaureate of the International Arctic School, Spartak Lekhanov, Head of the Project Office of the International Arctic School .

Feodosia Gabysheva presented a project, initiated by Sakha Republic and supported by the Northern Forum, title of the project is "Children of the Arctic: Access to quality general education and competences for living in the Arctic".

Russian Federation public authorities and society pay constant attention to the issues of education and culture, including the creation of conditions for the preservation of linguistic and cultural diversity in preschool and school education.

The Sakha Republic (Yakutia) is one of the leaders in ensuring general education for indigenous people, and successfully implementing the UNESCO projects "Literacy of Indigenous Peoples Leading a Nomadic Life", "Teachers of the Arctic", "Preserving a Disappearing Yukaghir Language" and others. An interregional school partnership project "School of Life in the North" is being implemented in collaboration with the Northern Forum, and take the form of metasubject competitions, distance forums and conferences.

On September 2017 at the meeting of the Sustainable Development Working Group delegation of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) showed a presentation video on a brief vision of the International Arctic School. On October 29, 2018, the delegation presented an updated project, which was approved by the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) and the Northern Forum.

During Finnish Chairmanship of the Arctic Council, the Russian Federation, Finland and Canada initiated a project "Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School".

Note that project "Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School" was initiated by the Russian Federation's Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs and Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON). The

Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation also took part in the project developing. Project's implementation has several stages.

The Sakha Republic in cooperation with the Northern Forum proposes to extend this project for a period of next Chairmanship, and to expand it to school and, in future, vocational education.

The title of the proposed project "Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School" carries important information about the objectives of the project.

In accordance with the priorities of the SDWG (the sustainable development of society refers to three major components of human existence: economical, ecological and human), this project aims to identify best practices in the system of secondary education, orienting's on human development with the "Arctic competencies" for life.

Education for indigenous people with a traditional way of life, living in inaccessible and remote areas, requires constant attention. This is connected with the new challenges of globalization and with the economic development of subarctic territories, as well as with the introduction of new technological economic system, including the field of education.

The project aims to find answers to the following questions:

- What knowledge and competencies are necessary for life in the North, and what skills can be called "arctic skills"?
- Is the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples included in educational programs and how (in particular, in school curricula)?
- What are the opportunities for international interaction on this topic?
- How can new educational ICT technologies help to ensure the availability of quality education for people living in subarctic territories, including people with a traditional lifestyle?

Project goal: Creating an effective model of providing affordable high-quality general education for people living in subarctic territories, including people with a traditional lifestyle.

Tasks:

- Development of network cooperation and research to create new standards of general education in the Arctic, adapted to the needs of the inhabitants of the region, including indigenous people;
- Preservation and revival of the indigenous languages of the Arctic people, as well as the development of skills for effective communication of children through foreign languages and information and communication tools;

- Promoting the development of models of nomadic and other forms of education of indigenous peoples, leading the traditional way of life;
- Development of a universal educational program on global Arctic studies for secondary general education with a focus on the future development of the Arctic;
- Creation of the International Arctic School in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) as the coordinator of the project “Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School”.

Expected results:

At the first stage (2019-2020)

- identification of best practices and dissemination of experience with a series of international and interregional conferences;
- raising the professional teachers with a focus on “Arctic competencies” with an increasing number of teachers involved in the project;

At the second stage (2021-2022)

- improving the quality of education and socialization of school graduates;
- creation of a network of international schools in the countries participating in the project with international baccalaureate programs focused on the development of the Arctic indigenous people’s potential.

On 2019 the International Arctic School will be built in Yakutsk, the capital of the Sakha Republic (Russian Federation).

The International Arctic School is ready to become a coordinating organization cooperating with the Russian Federation’s Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs.

The mission of the International Arctic School is to educate competitive, responsible citizens, who are able to learn throughout life, aimed at serving all people and developing the Arctic region on the basis of intercultural understanding and respect.

At the SDWG meeting most of the participating countries and permanent participants expressed support for the continuation of this project and an extension to school and vocational education.

The meeting participants expressed a common hope that together we will be able to develop the network of schools and create an innovative model of education, demanded by our countries and meeting the needs of our peoples.

### **3.4 “Save and Preserve” International Environmental Campaign**

International Environmental Campaign "Save and Preserve" is a large-scale socially significant environmental project implemented in the Autonomous Okrug since

2003, and since 2004 it has been held under the auspices of UNESCO and Northern Forum. International Environmental Campaign "Save and Preserve" is a unique socially-significant ecological project that consolidates the efforts of the authorities and the public in addressing environmental management and environmental protection. Implementation of this project in the context of national environmental policy is a mechanism to facilitate the implementation of the basic principles of sustainable development of society.

The action is aimed at improving the system of environmental education and awareness, improve the ecological culture of the public, the development of interregional and international cooperation in ensuring the environmentally sound, sustainable development of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Ugra.

The events of the 16th International Ecological Action "Save and Preserve" took place in the Autonomous Okrug on 18 May - 8 June 2018 under the motto "You are the one who helps make the planet clean!" This year's Action's topic was "Waste handling".

### **3.5 Model of the Northern Forum**

A business game called "Model of the Northern Forum" was held on February 26-28, 2018, at the NEFU Academic Board Hall under joint initiative of the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) and the Northern Forum.

The "Model of the Northern Forum" is an exciting business game, during which the participants reproduce the work of the real Northern Forum for several days. There were five working groups at the event:

- Development of Energy in the North Working Group;
- Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic regions Working Group;
- Business Cooperation in the North Working Group;
- Transportation in the North Working Group;
- Education and Research Working Group.

Business games like this foster cognitive and professional motivations and interests among future professionals, systems thinking, individual and joint decision-making skills, as well as responsible attitude to work, respect for team and social values as a whole. Thus, this event is relevant and significant step for bringing up competitive and competent future professionals.

The ultimate goal of each group is to develop a project under the working group's action line, which was presented at the closing ceremony.



The representatives of the Northern Forum's Secretariat, the Sakha Republic's Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Transport and Roads, Ministry of Housing, Public Utilities and Energy, a regional public organization on development of Arctic regions "Yakutian Arctic", as well as representatives of the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) will assist the participants.

"Model of the Northern Forum" business game started on February 26, 2018 in the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) among 6 to 11 grade school and university students. The event was organized by a joint initiative of the Northern Forum and NEFU and, and was moderated by the NF Executive Director Mikhail Pogodaev and the fourth year student of NEFU Foreign Philology and Regional Studies Institute Parilova Varvara. The opening ceremony was attended by the NEFU Vice-Rector for Humanitarian Education and Corporate Policies Zaykova Nadezhda, First Deputy Head of the Department of External Relations of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), member of the NF Transportation in the North Working Group Stepanova Diana, First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Chair of the NF Education and Research Working Group Gabysheva Feodosiya, as well as Associate Professor of the Department of International Studies of the NEFU Foreign Philology and Regional Studies Institute Maksimova Daryana.

On February 26 leading Arctic experts gave a short series of lectures. The first lecturer was Mikhail Pogodaev with a speech on the Northern Forum's Development Priorities and Prospects. He was followed by Lars Kullerud, UArctic President, and Svein Mathiesen, Professor of the University of Tromsø, Head of the UArctic Institute of Circumpolar Reindeer Husbandry. Experts discussed with the audience the issues of international cooperation in the field of education, as well as local production and import substitution issues. Minister of Transport and Roads of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), member of the NF Transportation in the North Working Group Vinokurov Semyon told the students in detail about the peculiarities of transport development in the North. Danilova Natalia, Executive Director of the regional public organization for the development of Arctic regions "Yakutian Arctic" of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) made a presentation of the Arctic Express project. Agarkov Aleksandr, Acting Head of the Energy Department of the Ministry of Housing, Public Utilities and Energy of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) briefly told the participants about the work of the Ministry, followed by a presentation on Alternative Energy Sources. Sitnikova Natalia, Head of the General Education Department of the Ministry of Education of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), presented the International Arctic School project.

February 27, 2018, the second day of the business game in the NEFU Academic Library. The participants formed three working groups in the following areas: Arctic Energy, Transportation and Business Cooperation WG; Arctic Quality of Life Assessment WG; Education and Research WG. During project startups, the

participants were assisted by: Nadezhda Syromyatnikova, the editor-in-chief of “Energy Saving in Yakutia” magazine, the NF Deputy Executive Director Olga Timofeeva-Tereshkina, Director of educational programs of the International Arctic School project Natalia Sitnikova, the Expert of the Resource Center for the Development of Education of SR(Y) Lia Tikhonova. The ultimate goal of each group was to develop a project for the working group's action line, which will be later presented at the closing of the event. In the course of the work, the participants analyzed the most urgent issues of the North and developed in teams a number of projects aimed to solve them.

February 28, 2018, the final third day of the business game and its closing ceremony was held in the NEFU Academic Board Hall. A representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry in Yakutsk Dyakonov Nikolay, Attache of the Russian MFA representative office in Yakutsk Tarasov Sergey, Head of the International Studies Department of the NEFU Foreign Philology and Regional Studies Institute Velizhanina Marina and experts who assisted the participants during the second day of the Model, Syromyatnikova Nadezhda from “Energy Saving in Yakutia” and Natalia Sitnikova from the International Arctic School Project participated the closing ceremony. Participants presented their projects. In total, three works were defended: “Energy and Transportation Development in the High North” analytical work, “Meet the Arctic” project, revealing the possibilities of research-oriented tourism, and the Extreme Tourism project. After the presentations, the participants received some feedback on projects from guests and experts.

### **3.6 Youth Ecological Forum**

**Leading region:** regional rotation;

**Participating regions:** Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Hokkaido

The Youth Eco Forum (YEF) was created to support comprehensive and balanced environmental education in order to realize the creative and leadership potential of Northern Youth. YEF is fostering a generation of youth that is proactive in addressing environmental issues, it is enhancing international relations through shared experiences in unique northern settings, and provides the tools for youth to make a difference in their home region.

Since 2001, the YEF has been organized on a regular basis by the international organization of the northern regions "The Northern Forum" (Executive Director Mikhail Pogodaev), on places provided by the member regions of the Northern Forum. This year the YEF was organized in Rovaniemi, Lapland, Finland, with the full support of the Government of Lapland, represented by the Governor Mika Riipi, and the University of Lapland. Youth Ecological Forums have been held almost

every year for more than 10 years. The first Forum was held in 2001 in Edmonton (Canada), and brought together 20 students from 7 countries and regions. Over the years, the Forum was hosted by such cities as Sapporo (Japan), Akureyri (Iceland), Khanty-Mansiysk (Russia), Anchorage (USA), Whitehorse (Canada), Yakutsk (Russia).

August 8-14, 2012, Canada's Yukon Territory hosted the 2012 Northern Forum's Youth Eco-Forum on the theme of "Climate Change and Creating Balance".

August 1-10, 2014, Yakutsk, Sakha Republic, hosted the 2014 Northern Forum's Youth Eco-Forum on the theme of "Clean city – clean planet".

April 13-16, 2017, Salekhard, Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, hosted the 2017 Northern Forum's Youth Eco-Forum on the theme of "The Arctic – is Our Home".

October 6-10, 2018, Rovaniemi, Lapland, Finland, hosted the 2018 Northern Forum's Youth Eco-Forum on the theme of "Voice of Northern Regions Youth for biodiversity conservation".

During the Youth Eco Forum – 2018 participants presented reports on Northern biodiversity, prepared poster presentations, visited the Arktikum Science Center, listened to lectures by leading international experts in the field of biodiversity conservation, and adopted the Lapland Declaration – 2018. The Governor of Lapland Mika Riipi congratulated the participants of the Youth Eco-Forum - 2018 at the plenary session on October 8, 2018. On October 9-10 YEF participants, as observers, were involved in the events of the International Youth Eco-Summit and the International Congress on the Conservation of Arctic Biodiversity.

Results:

I Degree Diploma awarded to Ekaterina Arkhipova, student of the Labytnangi gymnasium of Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug for the project "Children's Arctic School" and the project "Technology of construction of eco-houses in the northern regions";

II Degree Diploma awarded to Anna-Sakhaaia Stepanova and Anatolii Osipov, students of the Berdigestyakh secondary school named after A.Osipov, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), for the project "The influence of the changing climate on the population of polar bears in the north-east of Yakutia";

III Degree Diploma awarded to Oleg Vastaev, student of the Lyceum №2, Nizhnevartovsk, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, for the project "There is a place for plastic".

"Regional biodiversity conservation" Diploma awarded to Hokkaido prefecture delegation.

“Arctic biodiversity conservation” Diploma awarded to Sakha Republic (Yakutia) delegation.

“Environmental education” Diploma awarded to Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug delegation.

“Pollution solving” Diploma awarded to Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug – Yugra delegation.

### **3.7 Drug-resistant TB Infection Monitoring in Circumpolar Regions of Russia**

Project Coordinator:

Aleksandr Kravchenko, Director, Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry, Member of the International Circumpolar Surveillance Tuberculosis Working Group (ICS-TB).

Member regions:

- Sakha Republic (Yakutia) – lead region: Aleksandr Kravchenko, Project Coordinator, Director, Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry; Maria Vinokurova, Project Executive, Deputy Director for Science, Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry, ICS-TB Member
- Kamchatka Krai: Andrey Gromov, Project Executive, Chief Physician of Kamchatka Krai TB Dispensary

Cooperation:

- Arkhangelsk Oblast – Andrey Maryandyshev, Chief Phthisiatrist of the Northwestern Federal District, Head, Department of Phthisiopulmonology, Northern State Medical University, MD, Professor, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, ICS-TB Working Group Member, Research Officer of Arkhangelsk Regional TB Dispensary.

Project goal:

The project is aimed at joint data collection to determine development patterns of a tuberculosis infection with multiple and broad drug resistance (M/XDR) pathogens in circumpolar regions in the current socio-economic conditions.

Project objectives:

1. To study the main epidemiological indicators of tuberculosis in Russian circumpolar regions participating in the project.
2. To study demographic, ethnic and biomedical characteristics of patients with pulmonary tuberculosis with M/XDR.

3. To compare the development features and trends of tuberculosis infection with M/XDR in the circumpolar regions for their subsequent use in epidemiological studies and in the development of regional programs for anti-TB activities

Activities in 2018:

In 2018 ICS-TB Working Group began collecting the best practices of tuberculosis prevention in the Northern Circumpolar regions from 2007 to 2017. Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry prepared and submitted two projects: one on public awareness and another one on detection, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis with M/XDR. We also submitted the project application to the Northern Forum Call for Projects – “Strengthening Cooperation between Circumpolar Regions for the Goals Set by the End TB Strategy” with involvement of other Arctic regions from Russia and Finland.

The 17<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Circumpolar Health (ICCH 17) took place on 12-15 August 2018 in Copenhagen (Denmark). The researchers of Sakha Republic Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry participated in science program with three reports. The report on TB Causative Agent Circulating in Sakha Republic (Yakutia) was marked as the best research poster. Sascha Wilk Michelsen, ICS-TB Chair, MD, PhD, (Denmark Department of Infectious Disease Immunology) led a meeting of ICS-TB Working Group that identified the priority work areas.

On 19-21 November 2018 the Applied Research Centre for Phthisiatry, Phthisiatrists Association of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) with the support of Sakha Republic Ministry of Healthcare, Northern Forum, and M.K. Ammosov NEFU will hold the Interregional Research Conference “Preventing the Spread of Tuberculosis Infection in Russian Circumpolar Regions. Co-infection Current Issues (HIV, TB, Hepatitis)”. The planned events: 19 November 2018 – Roundtable dedicated to the memory of distinguished healthcare actor and researcher, Professor M.A. Tyrylgin, who greatly contributed to healthcare and science development in Sakha Republic (Yakutia) “Preventative, Accessible and Specialized Medical Care for the Population of Regions in the Arctic and North”; 20 November 2018 – Research Conference; 21 November 2018 – Schools for practicing physicians.

Main directions of Conference science program:

- Special aspects of anti-tuberculosis activities in the conditions of Northern and Arctic territories;
- Social and legal issues of interaction between medical and public organizations for addressing tuberculosis;
- Diagnosis and chemotherapy of tuberculosis with multiple and broad drug resistance;

- Cutting-edge technologies for studying tuberculosis causative agent and its drug resistance.

It is expected that more than 150 physicians – healthcare actors, phthisiatrists, infectious disease specialists, medical research and general public representatives – will take part in the event. Leading Russian TB specialists, leaders of federal research and education institutions, representatives of Arctic and Northern regions were invited to the event. Conference proceedings will be published.

Achieved results:

As a result of studies and discussions at the federal, interregional, and republican levels, the need to monitor tuberculosis infection with multiple drug resistance in Russian circumpolar regions was determined. It arises from high epidemiological indicators of tuberculosis in the Northern regions, the increase in the spread of strains of the causative agent of infection with M/XDR, the need to assess the trend of their spread and raise awareness in other regions with common problems.

The revealed significant differences in the level and dynamics of epidemiological indicators in the Northern regions are connected to differences in the degree of medical care accessibility and quality of anti-tuberculous activities: prevention, detection, bacteriological diagnosis, treatment and dispensary observation of tuberculosis patients.

All this urges the need to develop the improved organizational forms of combating tuberculosis adjusted for geographic and climatic features, socio-economic, material and technical differences, degree of anti-tuberculosis services staffing in the Northern regions of Russia.

Work Plan for 2019:

- To encourage Magadan and Sakhalin Oblasts to participate in the project;
- To continue data collecting;
- Participating in TB research conferences of the Northern regions to discuss related issues and to share experience;
- In order to hold interregional research conference in Yakutsk and to encourage Arctic regions to join the NF project, there is a need of financial support by means of NF grants for expenses related to improved TB infection monitoring development, education and training activities, sharing experience, organizing issue-related symposiums and workshops.

### **3.8 Schools Partnership**

**Project Coordinator:**

Dora Yegorova, teacher of English, Yakut City National Gymnasium

The project, led by Sakha Republic, is dedicated to the development of schools partnership in the North. Leading organization - Yakutsk City National Gymnasium, leading its own project "School of life in the North". Work on the project started in 2008. and in its framework includes:

International educational teleconferences, competitions, presentations, training and research projects for the elementary school, meeting students of sister cities, and so on. Events are organized with orientation on the age group - for elementary, middle and high school separately, with the emphasis on international activities focused on high school students.

Objective of the project:

To create conditions for school of life in the North, based on intercultural dialogue of peoples inhabiting North and conduct educational research on the conceptualization of the northern view of the world.

Yakut City National Gymnasium partner-schools:

- Xamaqatta Saxa-French Lyceum, Nam District, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Nam Uluus Gymnasium, Nam, Nam District, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Berzigesteex Secondary School with in-depth study of individual subjects, Berzigesteex, Gorny District, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Saaskylaax Secondary School, Saaskylaax, Anaabyr Dolgan-Evenki District, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- Dudinka Secondary School #1, Tajmyr Dolgan-Nenets Municipal District, Krasnoyarsk Krai
- Abyj Secondary School, Abyj, Abyj District, Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
- West High School, Anchorage, Alaska, USA,
- Stanhope Primary School, London, UK,
- Taruno High School, Hobart, Australia.

#### **Work done in 2018:**

On February 15, Nam Uluus Gymnasium hosted the scientific and practical conference "School of Life in the North" - 2018. This year 65 school students took part in the Conference. The jury noted the high quality of the recommended works.

Sections of the Conference: human sciences, technical sciences, natural sciences.  
Groups: 2-6 grade students (working language - Russian), 7-11 grade students (working language – English).

#### Online Olympiad "School of Life in the North"

From February 14 to March 17, 2018, the School of Life in the North, an Olympiad for schoolchildren was held as part of the activities of the Northern Forum, with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), the Institute for the Development of Education and Professional Development of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), the Institute of Foreign Philology and Regional Studies of the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU).

The Olympiad consists of two olympiads: an online olympiad in English and a meta-subject (creative) olympiad.

Online Olympiad (test) is conducted in the form of test tasks in English and selected subjects in English (biology, physics, mathematics, history, geography).

The meta-subject (creative) Olympiad is held in the form of creative work in any of the languages (native, Russian, English). Of the questions asked, students choose one and answer, giving arguments, tables, links, etc.

Grade 2 to 11 schoolchildren from Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug and Chukotka Autonomous Okrug took part in the online Olympiad. In total: 481 students.

#### Conclusion:

It should be noted that the project activity is included in the general school plan of educational institutions and in the life activity of the student team, the youth of settlements.

#### Recommendations for the project:

- conducting online Olympiad for schoolchildren by foreign educational institutions, language centers;
- holding a scientific and practical conference, an online Olympiad in English, a meta-subject Olympiad on the basis of the YEF (Youth Eco Forum);
- participation of schoolchildren in the research work of scientists and researchers, research centers;
- search for social partners of the project.

### **3.9 Development of Specially Protected Areas**

#### Working Group Chair:



Yakov Sivtsev, Director, Directorate of Biological Resources and Specially Protected Areas under Ministry of Nature Protection of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

Working Group Executive Secretary:

Fyodor Stulov, Head, Specially Protected Areas Division, Leningrad Oblast Committee on Natural Recourses

Coordinator:

Sargylaana Mikhailova, Head, Specially Protected Areas Department, Directorate of Biological Resources and Specially Protected Areas under Ministry of Nature Protection of Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

Member regions:

- Leningrad Oblast: Fyodor Stulov, Head, Specially Protected Areas Division, Leningrad Oblast Committee on Natural Recourses
- St. Petersburg: Tatiana Kovaleva, Director, St. Petersburg Directorate of Specially Protected Areas
- WWF Russia: Mikhail Stishov
- Krasnoyarsk Krai: Pavel Borzykh, Director, Krasnoyarsk Krai Directorate of Specially Protected Areas

Description:

The first workshop on Specially Protected Areas development was held in 2012 as part of the Sakha Republic Chairmanship in the Northern Forum. The second workshop “Mechanisms for Ensuring the Specially Protected Areas Regime: Experience of Russian Federal Subjects and Northern Forum Member Regions” was held in 2015 in St. Petersburg.

The workshop was attended by representatives from more than ten Russian federal subjects, eight foreign countries, a number of international organizations that are WG members.

Since a significant part of the Northern regions of the world is composed of SPAs, the implementation of this project is important both for SPAs personnel and for executive authorities associated with environment protection and ecology. Learning the experience of other regions in this area, as well as networking, facilitates enhanced cooperation in such important area as Northern and Arctic relations.

Goal:

The WG is aimed at increasing the environment-oriented efficiency of SPAs for the benefit of sustainable development of the Northern regions, improving the

management system to preserve the environment and to ensure environmental stability.

Objects:

- a) Systematic exchange of information on regional policies in the field of environmental protection and SPAs development.
- b) Establishing cooperation with the Arctic Council Working Groups and Permanent Participants (CAFF organizations, indigenous peoples of the North, and Observers), Commissions of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, WWF organizations in the countries participating in WG.
- c) Using environmental education to promote spiritual, moral, ecological traditions of the peoples of the North.
- d) Joint work on improving skills of SPAs specialists.
- e) Developing standards of staffing level for state inspectors in the field of environmental protection in the Russian Federation, as well as standards of material and technical support for state inspectors in the field of environmental protection, who serve in regional SPAs, and providing cordon facilities.
- f) Developing measures of state support and protection of non-staff public environmental inspectors, including financial support of their activities (equipment, reward for activities), physical protection and insurance.
- g) Creating GIS to establish a foundation for addressing state and municipal governance issues in SPAs.

Current activities:

WG members actively interact to jointly address SPAs functioning and efficiency.

Activities in 2018:

Yakov Sivtsev, WG Chair – Director, Directorate of Biological Resources and Specially Protected Areas under Ministry of Nature Protection of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), attended the XIII General Assembly of the Northern Forum held in Krasnoyarsk from 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.

XIII General Assembly of the Northern Forum resulted in binding an agreement between Krasnoyarsk Krai and Sakha Republic (Yakutia) on environmental cooperation. The document was signed by Acting Minister of Environment and Rational Environmental Management of Krasnoyarsk Krai Vladimir Chasovitin and Yakutian Minister of Nature Protection Sakhamin Afanasiev.

The signed agreement calls for improved protection measures aimed at preserving wild reindeer stock within Northern regions of Krasnoyarsk Krai and Yakutia – the

main habitat of this animal. The parties agreed to carry out simultaneous raids in order to identify and prevent violations of environmental legislation on hunting and preserving wild reindeer.

Furthermore, the parties will share information based on the results of monitoring hoofed mammals stock status, and will cooperate in determining limits and quotas for harvesting Taimyr wild reindeer in upcoming hunting season.

We continue joint work with WG members on the Development of Specially Protected Areas project that throughout its existence contributed to establishment of working relations and cooperation on a long-term basis among various Northern regions of country and to successful improvement of functioning and governing regional SPAs systems. As proved by results of previous years, this project is highly efficient and have a huge potential for further development.

Future WG objectives include forming a set of information and proposals for developing local projects, carrying out teleconferences, consultations among WG members to further discuss issues related to project implementation.

As a part of the Sakha Key Ornithological Territories Inventory Control, terrestrial monitoring was conducted in tundra between lower rivers of Indigirka and Kolyma, as well as on the left bank of Berelyakh river and Middle Aldan. The study covered 2158 km. Local concentration of rare and valuable species were found, including Siberian crane, Sandhill crane, greater white-fronted goose, taiga bean goose, spectacled eider and Steller's eider. The comparison of long-standing records show the stock stability and increase of these species. As part of the habitat protection system adjustment, it was recommended to review the forms of conservation of newly found nesting bird colony in the lower river of Shandrin. Thirty-five industrial projects that are being implemented in the natural habitat of cranes and other rare animal species were ornithologically examined. The biggest potential danger for crane habitat in Indigirka might be a gold mining project in Ercha River situated at a distance of 188 km to Southwest from Chokurdakh village. The harmful chemicals (cyanide, alkali) used for open-pit gold mining can enter Indigirka River and affect the food resources and stock wellbeing. In order to prevent the negative implications, there is a need for regular water analysis at the nest sites of cranes.

Work plan for 2019:

Maintaining working relations with WG members, forming a set of information and proposals for developing local projects, carrying out teleconferences, consultations among WG members to further discuss issues related to project implementation.

### **3.10 Human in the Arctic**

Project Coordinator:

Valentina Kondratieva, Head, Sakha Republic Centre for Strategic Research

#### Description:

Human in the Arctic project was initiated by Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in 2014. It has practical and methodological nature and is aimed at assessing the quality of life of people in the Arctic, identifying main issues that hinder the human development in the Arctic and finding ways to solve them.

The implementation of Human in the Arctic project is included in Socio-economic Development Action Plan of Ust-Yansky District of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Decree of the Government of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) No. 216 dated 26 July 2014) and in Social and Economic Development Strategy of Zhigansky National Evenki District of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Decree of the Government of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) No. 317 dated 31 August 2016).

#### Project goal:

Assessing the quality of life of the Arctic people, identifying the main issues that hinder the human development in the Arctic, and developing measures to increase the role of labor motivation, to develop entrepreneurship while maintaining traditional livelihood of peoples in the North with due regard to experience of foreign Arctic countries.

#### Project objectives:

- Sociological research on assessing the quality of life of people in Russian Federation and foreign countries with Arctic territories;
- Composing a comprehensive social portrait of human in the Arctic;
- Developing recommendations for increasing the quality of life of people residing in the Russian Arctic regions.

#### Activities in 2018:

April 2018.

XIII General Assembly of the Northern Forum. Human in the Arctic project was featured in NF Projects Presentation during the XIII General Assembly of the Northern Forum in Krasnoyarsk. Upon its review the project was recommended for submission to NF Call for Projects on the theme No. 7 “Assessing the Quality of Life of People in the Arctic Regions”.

Working meeting with the lecturer of educational and methodological workshops of Human in the Arctic project, Business Consultant of Saami Labor Centre Elin Sabbasen (Norway). It discussed the outcomes of Human in the Arctic project and

plans for further engagement in terms of increasing motivation for entrepreneurship in the Arctic through educational and methodological workshops.

July 2018.

Sociological research aimed at assessing the quality of life of indigenous people in Kamchatka Krai. As a part of Human in the Arctic project implementation, Centre for Strategic Research of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) conducted sociological study to assess the quality of life of indigenous people and cultural vitality in Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, in November 2017. The study covered 160 households. The obtained data was processed and analyzed with IBM SPSS Statistics 21.0. Following the sociological survey of households in Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, their quality of life was compared to Sakha Republic (Yakutia) and Krasnoyarsk Krai, a sociodemographic portrait was also composed. The outcome of analysis were sent to Dmitriy Korostelyov, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Kamchatka Krai, for further work (reference number 567-03 dated 24.07.18 r.).

January – September. Developing and submitting the application to NF Call for Projects on the theme No. 7 “Assessing the Quality of Life of People in the Arctic Regions”.

Work Plan:

- Approving Human in the Arctic project concept and action plan for 2018-2020;
- Developing educational programs (including distance programs) and practical courses focused on increasing competencies and profile of professions needed for traditional industries in the Northern and Arctic regions together with vocational institutions;
- Participating in NF Call for Projects on the theme No. 7 “Assessing the Quality of Life of People in the Arctic Regions”;
- To further broaden the reach of sociological studies to identify the quality of life of indigenous peoples in the North, Russian Arctic regions and foreign countries.

### **3.11 Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions**

**Project Coordinator:** Tero Mustonen, Snowchange Co-op President

The Festival was conceptualized by professional fisherman Olli Klemola, keeper of fishing traditions of Pälkäne, Finland.

The first Festival took place in Finland in September 2014.

The second Festival was organized on Lena River, Sakha Republic, Russia, in September 2016.

The 2018 Festival was held in Tornio, Finland on September 7-8.

The 2020 Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions is slated for Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Ugra, Russia, in September 2020.

Project's Goal:

Association of fishermen engaged in small-scale individual fishing, artisanal fisheries and professional anglers representing indigenous peoples and local traditions of both sexes in the territory of the Eurasian North to strengthen their potential and vitality.

Project Objectives:

A full-scale preparation for the third Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions is currently under way and is tentatively scheduled to be held in Tornio, Finland, at the end of August 2018.

Current activity:

2018 Festival was co-organised by the EU – funded Interreg Kesäsiika (Summer Whitefish) project, the Northern Forum, NEFCO, Gaia Foundation and Nordic Council of Ministers.

Lippo 2018 – Festival of Northern Fishing Traditions collected over 75 Indigenous and 70 local fishermen around the world to Tornio, Finland over three days of discussions and demonstrations of cultural heritage, climate change, ecological restoration and other issues related to traditional northern fisheries. We had delegations from the Indigenous peoples and other delegates of Taiwan, Ainu of Japan, Maori of Aotearoa – New Zealand, Siberia, Greenland, Alaska, USA, UK, Canadian First Nations, Sámi delegates from Finland, Russia and Sweden as well as Finnish and other fishermen around Europe.

Outcome:

Videos, reports and documentation of problematic issues and views of fishermen engaged in small-scale individual fishing, artisanal fisheries and professional anglers representing indigenous peoples and local traditions of both sexes in the territory of the Eurasian North

#### 4. ARCTIC COUNCIL

[PAME Working Group Meeting \(PAME I-2018\), Quebec City, Canada, February 12-14](#)

Delegations from all Arctic Council member states (Russian Federation, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the USA), representatives of the Secretariat and other working groups of the Arctic Council, as well as delegations of non-governmental organizations took part in the PAME meeting.

One of the main issues of the PAME agenda was the discussion on the implementation of the recommendations of the Arctic Maritime Shipping (AMSA).

Delegations also discussed the implementation of the project on the harmonized implementation of the Polar Code, led by Russia and Finland. Within the first information stage of this project, a brochure on the provisions and requirements of the Polar Code has been prepared. It is planned that this project will be presented at the International Conference on the Polar Code (February 22, 2018, Helsinki, Finland). Delegations asked Russia and Finland to continue work on the preparation of project proposals for the harmonized implementation of the Polar Code.

The Northern Forum was represented by Jim Gamble, Senior Researcher at the Institute of the North, presenting the proposals of the Northern Forum member regions on agenda items, as well as on issues that are part of the work of the Working Group, such as the implementation of the provisions of the International Polar Code, traditions and culture indigenous peoples in the use of sea spaces for navigation, fishing and sea hunting, the use of fuel in the delivery of goods to the Arctic communities, etc.

[The Arctic Council's SDWG Meeting, Kittilä, Finland, March 19-20](#)

The purpose of the meeting was to review the implementation and finalization of project proposals; identification and preparation for major events in 2018 and 2019; discussion of SDWG strategic planning in accordance with the new Strategic Framework.

[Arctic Biodiversity Congress 2018, Rovaniemi, Finland, October 9-12](#)

A major event in the field of ecology of the Arctic countries and regions - the Congress on Arctic biodiversity – 2018 was organized by the Working Group of the Arctic Council CAFF (Conservation of Flora and Fauna Conservation) - Executive Secretary Tom Barry.

The congress was held in the Northern Forum's member region – Province of Lapland (Governor Mikka Riipi). The Government of Lapland and the University of Lapland have done a great deal of organizational work and put considerable resources into holding such a representative event in a comfortable working environment.

Within the framework of the Congress, the Northern Forum held its international event - "Youth Eco-Forum - 2018" on the topic "Voice of the youth of the northern regions for the conservation of biodiversity" and a meeting of the NF Working Group on Environment and Biodiversity.

The Executive Director of the Northern Forum, Mikhail Pogodaev, and the Chairman of the Working Group on Environment and Biodiversity, Minister of

Ecology, Nature Management and Forestry of the Sakha Republic (Russia) Sakhamin Afanasyev, participated in the work sessions of the Congress.

Below is an overview of the main events of the Congress.

Tuesday, 9 October 2018

The Arctic Biodiversity Congress 2018 started its work in Rovaniemi, the province of the Lapland of Finland on Tuesday, October 9.

Sauli Niinistö, President of the Republic of Finland, welcomed participants underlining the need to foster interactions between scientists and policy makers. He highlighted that the Arctic is not isolated from the rest of the globe, pointing to the region's role as breeding ground for migratory birds. Niinistö also emphasized that climate change should not only be in the headlines when a new report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is published, but needs to “stay firmly on the agenda for the foreseeable future.” In the morning, participants attended a plenary session entitled “Our knowledge, Our actions: addressing biodiversity conservation in a changing Arctic,” which highlighted the significant consequences of climate change in the Arctic region, discussed mechanisms to foster co-production between scientists and traditional knowledge holders, and emphasized the need to engage industry actors. In the afternoon, the group of almost 500 participants divided itself among several parallel sessions discussing, inter alia:

- the impact of reduced ice cover in the Arctic marine environment;
- trends in circumpolar Arctic freshwaters;
- cultural heritage and land-use planning;
- early warning and approaches to measuring changes in biodiversity;
- reducing the effects of commercial fishing on biodiversity;
- Arctic biodiversity education and outreach;
- promoting ecosystem services of Arctic wetlands for sustainable development; and
- responsible mining.

In the evening, there was a showcase of short films such as “Our Shared Heritage: Arctic Breeding Birds in the Yellow Sea.”

Wednesday, 10 October 2018

View of the panel during the plenary session.



On Wednesday, 10 October, participants of the Arctic Biodiversity Congress 2018 gathered in Rovaniemi, Finland, to attend the second day of the event. In the morning several parallel sessions took place on some of the following items:

- the Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative;
- Arctic ocean acidification;
- making Arctic data accessible and reusable; and
- biodiversity in the high seas of the Central Arctic Ocean.

During lunch time, participants were invited to join a session titled “Beyond the Blue Planet: Frozen Worlds” hosted by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Natural History Unit, which called for input from scientists, and Indigenous Peoples and local communities for preparing the new TV series on cryosphere regions. In the afternoon, the plenary session “the Arctic in a Global Context: Biodiversity Targets, Sustainable Development Goals and a Post-2020 Agenda” underscored the transformational character of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which ensures that sustainable development is no longer a matter of only environmental ministries, pointing, inter alia, to the increased engagement of the private sector. Panellists also highlighted the need to “keep it simple” when communicating research findings. Following this debate, the Arctic Economic Council Investments and Infrastructure Working Group hosted a session on responsible investment in the Arctic. Parallel sessions in the afternoon then addressed, among other issues:

- oil spill prevention;
- the Arctic Invasive Alien Species Plan; and
- Arctic marine protected areas.

At the end of the day, participants attended a poster session and were welcomed at the Pilke Science Center for a reception.

On Thursday, 11 October, participants of the Arctic Biodiversity Congress 2018 gathered in Rovaniemi, Finland, to attend the third day of the event. In the morning, several parallel sessions took place on, among other things, the following items:

- pan-Arctic assessments of plant diversity;
- community-based monitoring of Arctic biodiversity;
- monitoring changes in the biodiversity of Arctic coastal ecosystems;
- effects of persistent organic pollutants and mercury on Arctic wildlife;
- transboundary management of Arctic biodiversity;
- ideas from Alaskan Native women about enhanced science communication and outreach; and
- species specific conservation action.

During lunchtime, participants were invited to join a poetry session, and the afternoon featured parallel sessions on: wetlands, conservation and sustainable harvest, freshwater systems, shipping, and the involvement of youth in Arctic conservation. The afternoon continued with a report from the Arctic Youth Summit, and a panel session featuring a discussion between Arctic Environment Ministers and other government representatives from the Arctic states.

Friday, 12 October 2018

On Friday, 12 October, the Arctic Biodiversity Congress 2018 gathered in Rovaniemi, Finland, for the last day of the event. In the morning, participants attended parallel sessions, discussing:

- mainstreaming biodiversity data in the extractive industries;
- resilience of pastoral ecosystems and livelihoods of nomadic herders;
- success stories of transboundary and cross-cultural cooperation in the Beringian region;
- improving knowledge on the marine Arctic environment;
- addressing conflicts between people and polar bears;
- guidelines for ecosystem approaches to management in the Arctic;
- building social-ecological resilience;
- lessons from Arctic biodiversity monitoring programs; and
- challenges and opportunities for Arctic ocean protection.

To conclude the congress, a final session was convened to share thoughts on main lessons from the event and ideas about the way forward. Neville Ash, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), emphasized the congress took a broad view of biodiversity and acknowledged the mutual reinforcement of sustainable use and conservation. Tom Barry, CAFF, said the congress successfully fostered vibrant discussions among a diversity of actors. He noted discussions are underway to hold a third edition of the congress, highlighting it would provide a great opportunity to assess the status of Arctic biodiversity halfway through the ten year timeline for tackling climate change identified in the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report. Closing the event, Aulikki Alanen, Ministry of Environment, Finland, lauded participants for having “truly lived the Rovaniemi spirit of strong environmental protection in the Arctic”.

[The Arctic Council’s SDWG Meeting, Rovaniemi, Finland, October 29](#)

The third regular meeting of the SDWG under the Finnish Chairmanship took place at Rovaniemi, Finland, on 29-30 October 2018. Approximately 87 participants attended this meeting, including representatives of seven (7) Observer states, nine (9) other Observer organizations, three (3) Working Groups

(ACAP, CAFF, EPPR) and two (2) invited experts (Arctic Economic Council, SITRA).

A delegation from the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) took part in this meeting on behalf of the Northern Forum. The delegation was composed of Feodosia Gabysheva, Deputy of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen), Chairman of the Committee on Science, Education, Mass Media and Affairs of Public Organizations of the State Assembly of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) (Il Tumen), Mikhail Pogodaev, Executive Director of the Northern Forum Secretariat, Natalia Sitnikova, Director of Educational programs of the International Baccalaureate of the International Arctic School, Spartak Lekhanov, Head of the Project Office of the International Arctic School .

Feodosia Gabysheva presented a project, initiated by Sakha Republic and supported by the Northern Forum, title of the project is “Children of the Arctic: Access to quality general education and competences for living in the Arctic”.

Russian Federation public authorities and society pay constant attention to the issues of education and culture, including the creation of conditions for the preservation of linguistic and cultural diversity in preschool and school education.

The Sakha Republic (Yakutia) is one of the leaders in ensuring general education for indigenous people, and successfully implementing the UNESCO projects “Literacy of Indigenous Peoples Leading a Nomadic Life”, “Teachers of the Arctic”, “Preserving a Disappearing Yukaghir Language” and others. An interregional school partnership project “School of Life in the North” is being implemented in collaboration with the Northern Forum, and take the form of metasubject competitions, distance forums and conferences.

On September 2017 at the meeting of the Sustainable Development Working Group delegation of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) showed a presentation video on a brief vision of the International Arctic School. On October 29, 2018, the delegation presented an updated project, which was approved by the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) and the Northern Forum.

During Finnish Chairmanship of the Arctic Council, the Russian Federation, Finland and Canada initiated a project “Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School”.

Note that project “Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School” was initiated by the Russian Federation’s Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs and Russian Association of Indigenous

Peoples of the North (RAIPON). The Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation also took part in the project developing. Project's implementation has several stages.

The Sakha Republic in cooperation with the Northern Forum proposes to extend this project for a period of next Chairmanship, and to expand it to school and, in future, vocational education.

The title of the proposed project "Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School" carries important information about the objectives of the project.

In accordance with the priorities of the SDWG (the sustainable development of society refers to three major components of human existence: economical, ecological and human), this project aims to identify best practices in the system of secondary education, orienting's on human development with the "Arctic competencies" for life.

Education for indigenous people with a traditional way of life, living in inaccessible and remote areas, requires constant attention. This is connected with the new challenges of globalization and with the economic development of subarctic territories, as well as with the introduction of new technological economic system, including the field of education.

The project aims to find answers to the following questions:

- What knowledge and competencies are necessary for life in the North, and what skills can be called "arctic skills"?
- Is the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples included in educational programs and how (in particular, in school curricula)?
- What are the opportunities for international interaction on this topic?
- How can new educational ICT technologies help to ensure the availability of quality education for people living in subarctic territories, including people with a traditional lifestyle?

Project goal: Creating an effective model of providing affordable high-quality general education for people living in subarctic territories, including people with a traditional lifestyle.

Tasks:

1. Development of network cooperation and research to create new standards of general education in the Arctic, adapted to the needs of the inhabitants of the region, including indigenous people;
2. Preservation and revival of the indigenous languages of the Arctic people, as well as the development of skills for effective communication of

- children through foreign languages and information and communication tools;
3. Promoting the development of models of nomadic and other forms of education of indigenous peoples, leading the traditional way of life;
  4. Development of a universal educational program on global Arctic studies for secondary general education with a focus on the future development of the Arctic;
  5. Creation of the International Arctic School in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) as the coordinator of the project “Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Smooth Transition to School”.

#### EXPECTED RESULTS:

At the first stage (2019-2020)

- identification of best practices and dissemination of experience with a series of international and interregional conferences;
- raising the professional teachers with a focus on “Arctic competencies” with an increasing number of teachers involved in the project;

At the second stage (2021-2022)

- improving the quality of education and socialization of school graduates;
- creation of a network of international schools in the countries participating in the project with international baccalaureate programs focused on the development of the Arctic indigenous people’s potential.

On 2019 the International Arctic School will be built in Yakutsk, the capital of the Sakha Republic (Russian Federation).

The International Arctic School is ready to become a coordinating organization cooperating with the Russian Federation’s Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs.

The mission of the International Arctic School is to educate competitive, responsible citizens, who are able to learn throughout life, aimed at serving all people and developing the Arctic region on the basis of intercultural understanding and respect.

At the SDWG meeting most of the participating countries and permanent participants expressed support for the continuation of this project and an extension to school and vocational education.

The meeting participants expressed a common hope that together we will be able to develop the network of schools and create an innovative model of education, demanded by our countries and meeting the needs of our peoples.

In conclusion, Feodosia Gabysheva invited all to take part in the project, including those aimed at promoting the languages and cultures of the indigenous peoples of the world in accordance to the International Year of Indigenous Languages, announced by the United Nations

[Third Senior Arctic Officials plenary meeting during the Finnish Chairmanship](#)

Third Senior Arctic Officials plenary meeting during the Finnish Chairmanship was held in Rovaniemi, Finland on November 1-2, 2018.

The meeting brought together representatives from the eight Arctic States, the six indigenous Permanent Participant organizations, six Working Groups, two Task Forces, one Expert Group and over 30 Observer states and organizations.

The Finnish Chairmanship is now in its final six months, and the Council's priority themes are environmental protection, connectivity, meteorological cooperation, and education.

На совещании была заслушана информация старших должностных лиц Арктических государств о развитии и текущем состоянии работы всех вспомогательных органов Совета.

The Executive Director of Northern Forum (an observer organization), Mikhail Pogodaev, presented a statement on supporting projects and initiatives implemented under the auspices of the Northern Forum:

“Mr. Chair,

The Northern Forum is an international organization for regional subnational governments in the circumpolar North and a platform for collaboration, sharing experiences and best practices across the North in improving the quality of life and promote sustainable development of northern regions.

Northern Forum is also a place for collaboration in Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation between northern regions.

The Northern Forum committed to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)'s Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, Aichi Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and reaffirms to continue its work on the unique Arctic and Northern ecosystems and biodiversity of the Northern regions environmental protection.

Arctic communities face major challenges related to climate change and globalization in the Arctic. Regional governments play an important role in implementation of national and international policy on environmental protection and biodiversity conservation and Northern Forum cooperation have many projects addressing this issues.

## YOUTH ECO-FORUM

The Youth Eco-Forum gathers the youth from northern regions every year to discuss challenges related to climate change and environmental protection. Last Forum was held in Rovaniemi during the Arctic Biodiversity Congress. We would like to thank Finnish Chairmanship in Arctic Council, CAFF, Lapland, UArctic, International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry and University of Lapland for their support of this event!

Here in Rovaniemi the Northern Forum Youth Environmental Forum brought together 45 young people from different northern regions and became a platform for discussions on environmental protection of fragile northern ecosystems including local observation work, for example LEO project at ACAP.

### DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS

"Development of Specially Protected Natural Areas" is one of the projects of the Northern Forum Working Group on Environmental Protection and Biodiversity. The first seminar on the development of PAs was held in 2012 as part of the chairmanship of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) in the Northern Forum.

On 8th of October 2018 during Arctic Biodiversity Congress the Northern Forum held its Working Group Meeting on Environmental Protection and Biodiversity chaired by Sakha Republic. Today one of the topics that we discuss in the working group is the work on inclusion of indigenous peoples in the management of PAs. There is a need to work on development of new approaches and frameworks such as Territories of Traditional Nature Use in Russia, Lapponia National Park in Sweden, other examples of National parks across the Arctic, where indigenous communities play a key role in the management of these protected areas.

### FESTIVAL OF NORTHERN FISHING TRADITIONS

Festivals of Northern Fishing Traditions were established during the period from 2014 to 2017 as an effective mechanism for establishing contacts and uniting fishermen engaged in small-scale individual fishing, artisanal fisheries and professional anglers representing indigenous peoples and local traditions, both genders in the territory of the Eurasian North. Previous festivals were held in:

North Karelia and the territory of the Koltta Saami residence, Finland, September 2014

Ezigeen (Zhigansk), Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia, September 2016

Tornio, Finland, September 2018

### RED BOOK THROUGH THE EYES OF CHILDREN

International project "Competition-exhibition of children's creativity "Red Book Through the Eyes of Children" in the framework of the International Ecological Action "To Save and Preserve" supported by UNESCO and the Northern Forum.

#### INTERNATIONAL ECOLOGICAL ACTION "TO SAVE AND PRESERVE"

9429 events were held during the Action in Khanty-Mansiysk, 601865 people from 22 municipalities of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug (A.O.), 72 subjects of Russia and 87 countries of the near and far abroad took part.

In 15-16 of April 2018 was held the XIII General Assembly of Northern Forum in Krasnoyarsk, finalizing the Chairmanship of Krasnoyarsk Krai in Northern Forum and beginning the Chairmanship of Nenets A.O.

As an example of interregional cooperation in biodiversity I would like to mention bilateral and multilateral agreements between northern regions. We welcome agreement between Krasnoyarsky Krai and Sakha Republic on monitoring and management of the Taimyr and Leno-Olenek wild reindeer populations. There is a great potential for cooperation between northern regions on monitoring and management of different species. For instance, the Northern Forum Project on monitoring of bear was expanded also to polar bears, where we try to unite efforts of different regions including indigenous communities on polar bear monitoring, patrols, which were established and are working in close cooperation with WWF. There is also potential to strengthen cooperation between Russian regions, Alaska and Canadian provinces within this project.

We would like to emphasize the importance of active involvement of sub-national governments in the work of Arctic Council and reassure that the regional governments will be strongly committed to contribute to the Arctic cooperation in the future!"

#### 5. NF REPRESENTATION AT EVENTS

The Northern Forum representation at events of the Arctic agenda and related issues is an important part of work to promote our actions and attract new members and partners into our activities.

During the period from January to October 2018, the Northern Forum has been represented at various international and Russian platforms.

- APPLICATE project General Assembly, Barselona, Spain, January 15-17, 2018
- Arctic Frontiers 2018 – Connecting the Arctic, Tromso, Norway, January 21-26, 2018



- “School of Life in the North” Research Conference for Schoolchildren, within NF Partnership of Schools project, Namtsy, Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Russia, February 15, 2018
- International Inclusive SMART-ART Festival “Show Yourself”, Yakutsk, Russia, March 14 – 15, 2018
- V International Conference “Fishing in the Arctic: Modern Challenges, International Practice, Prospectives”, Murmansk, Russia, March 14-15, 2018
- • The 5th Interregional and Cross-border Cooperation Working Group of Intergovernmental Norwegian-Russian Commission on Economic, Industrial and Scientific-Technical Cooperation under Co-Chairmanship of the Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation – Head of the Federal Agency of State Property Management D.V. Pristanskov and the State Secretary of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fishing of Norway, R.Angelvik, Murmansk, Russia, March 15, 2018

## 6. BUDGET

Please find attached an Appendix 1.

## 7. 2018 MAIN RESULTS

### RESOLUTIONS

Board of Governors have signed 8 resolutions:

- Resolution № 195 “On approving the Terms and Conditions of the Northern Forum Call for Projects”
- Resolution № 196 “On permanent location for the Northern Forum Secretariat in Yakutsk”
- Resolution № 197 “On awarding Walter Hickel medal”
- Resolution № 198 “On Admittance of a New Region to the Northern Forum Members”
- Resolution № 199 “On Northern Forum Strategy”
- Resolution № 200 “On approval of the Northern Forum budget for 2018”
- Resolution № 201 «On the appointment of the Northern Forum Executive Director»
- Resolution № 202 «On the Board Of Governors»

The report approved by the **Resolution # 195-2018** includes the main information on the Northern Forum activities during Krasnoyarsk Krai Chairmanship from November 2015 to March 2018.

Given the efficient work of the Northern Forum Secretariat in Yakutsk and support for the Northern Forum activities provided by Sakha Republic (Yakutia), the Northern Forum Secretariat was permanently located in Yakutsk following the **Resolution # 196**.

In accordance with the **Resolution # 197**, the Board of Governors resolved to award the following people with Walter Hickel medal for their great contribution to the development of the Northern Forum and Northern cooperation:

- **Natalya Komarova**, Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug-Ugra
- **Aleksandr Pelyasov**, Director, Center of Northern and Arctic Economies, Council for the Study of Productive Forces, Chair, Russian Section of European Regional Science Association, Chair, Expert Council on Arctic and Antarctic under the Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
- **Lars Kullerud**, President, University of the Arctic

**Resolution # 198** granted a status of the Northern Forum member region to Khabarovsk Krai.

The Northern Forum strategy “Northern Forum 2018-2026 – The Voice of Northern regions” developed by Lapland was taken by the Board of Governors as a basis. **Resolution # 199** assigned the RCC to amend the strategy in compliance with discussions and to adopt the strategy at next RCC meeting.

**Resolution # 200** approved the Northern Forum budget for 2018. Following the discussions, the additional item of website maintenance was added to the budget.

According to the **Resolution # 201**, the Board of Governors approved the appointment of Mikhail Pogodaev to a position of the Executive Director for the period until the next XIV General Assembly of the Northern Forum in 2020.

The composition of the Board of Governors for the next 2-year period was approved by the **Resolution # 202**. Nenets Autonomous Okrug was elected as a Chair of the Northern Forum for 2018-2020. Vice-Chairs of the Northern Forum for 2018-2020 were appointed by the regions’ geographical position: from Northeast Russia – Sakha Republic (Yakutia), from Northwest Russia – Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug-Ugra, from North America – State of Alaska, from Northern Europe – Akureyri municipality, from Northeast Asia – Gangwon province.

## Declaration

The main achievements of 2015-2018 and future directions of the Northern Forum work for 2018-2020 are identified in **Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018**.

## Agreements

The Northern Forum signed the cooperation agreements with Siberian Federal University, Ugra State University, Far Eastern Federal University.

The parties agreed to advance cooperation on development and implementation of joint research and educational projects, programs and training of highly qualified personnel for High North in the following fields: Northern studies (including study of economic, ethnic, religious, language, sociodemographic processes in northern regions); applied ecology (including study of ecosystems change), Arctic engineering, including development of unmanned technologies based on artificial intelligence, solutions for technical issues of designing at low temperatures.

Furthermore, agreement on interregional interaction and cooperation was signed between Ministry of Ecology and Rational Environmental Management of Krasnoyarsk Krai and Ministry of Nature Protection of Sakha Republic (Yakutia). The document was signed by Acting Minister of Ecology and Rational Environmental Management of Krasnoyarsk Krai **Vladimir Chasovitin** and Minister of Nature Protection of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) **Sakhamin Afanasiev**.

The signed agreement provides for enhancement of protection activities aimed at preserving the wild reindeer population at the borders of Northern areas of Krasnoyarsk Krai and Yakutia – the main habitat of these animals. The parties agreed to carry out simultaneous raids to detect and prevent violations of environmental legislation on hunting and preservation of wild reindeers. The federal subjects will share the information on ungulates population status monitoring and cooperate in setting quotas and limits for harvesting Taimyr wild reindeer population in the upcoming hunting season.

## 8. YEAR-END PROPOSALS

On organization's activities:

- To intensify the new NF member attraction efforts, including Greenland, Scandinavia and territories of Canada.
- To intensify the Northern Forum project activities improvement efforts
- To strengthen the Northern Forum's involvement in the activities of other international organizations: the Arctic Economic Council, the Barents Euro-Arctic Council and others.

- To examine the possibility of participation of the Northern Forum member-regions' municipalities in the Arctic Mayors Forum.
- Actively involve the regions in the implementation of the SDWG project for construction in the Arctic ZERO ARCTIC.

On participation in the Arctic Council:

- To develop the Northern Forum's policy for participation in the Arctic Council
- To create a regular data collection mechanism on the NF member regions' proposals and information on topical issues, which are discussed in the Arctic Council. Thus we will be able to create a communication channel and gradually synchronize our activities with the activities of the Arctic Council, as well as to show the participants of the Arctic Council that we can contribute to the debate on Sustainable Development of the High North
- To strengthen the Northern Forum member regions' involvement in the Arctic Council projects
- To create an effective mechanism of regional government participation in the international Arctic cooperation and strengthening the regions' role in the Arctic Council.
- To continue the promotion of "Human in the Arctic" and "International Arctic School" project applications and the involvement of partners from other Arctic countries in order to 90 days before the next SDWG meeting to submit for approval as a project of the Arctic Council
- Urge the Northern Forum member regions to take part, if possible, in the following projects of the Arctic Council:
  - Arctic Adaptation Exchange Portal
  - Arctic Energy Summit
  - Arctic Remote Energy Networks Academy (ARENA)
  - Assessing, Monitoring and Promoting Arctic Indigenous Languages
  - The Arctic as a Food Producing Region
  - Arctic Renewable Energy Atlas (AREA)
  - Arctic Children – Preschool Education
  - Arctic Children – School Education (International Arctic School)

- Improving Health in Arctic Communities through Safe and Affordable Access to Household Running Water and Sewer: Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH)
- Circumpolar Local Environmental Observer Network (CLEO) and Local Environmental Observer Network (LEO)
- A new report on the Arctic Freshwater System in a Changing Climate
- The Arctic Invasive Alien Species (ARIAS) Strategy and Action Plan
- Enhanced interaction on Search and Rescue (SAR) in the Arctic
- Efforts to support a pan-Arctic network of marine protected areas (MPAs)
- Capacity-building and facilitating Arctic regional leaders and communities

## 9. THE NORTHERN FORUM WORK PLAN FOR 2019

№	Activities	Timeline	Description
1.	Continue attracting new regions and business partners to the Northern Forum membership	Permanently	Implementation of Article 23 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018. Membership registration of potential regions should be further continued, as well as attracting new business partners. Chairing region, all member regions, NF bodies should also work on attracting new members.
2.	Enhancing website maintenance and NF communication strategy	Permanently	Implementation of Article 41 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018.
3.	Attending Arctic Council meetings	On a regular basis	Implementation of Article 28 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 on fruitful and constructive representation and strengthening NF role in the Arctic Council. It was recommended to the Regional Coordinators Committee to develop NF policy on Arctic Council engagement. Creating the permanent mechanism for regional governments involvement in international Arctic cooperation and strengthening a role of the regions within the Arctic Council.
4.	Participation of NF member regions in Arctic Council ongoing projects	Permanently	Implementation of Articles 32 and 37 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 on need for strengthening efforts on NF member regions participation in Arctic Council projects.
5.	Actively involving the regions in the implementation of the SDWG's project for construction in the Arctic "ZERO ARCTIC"	During the year	Implementation of Articles 32 and 37 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 on need for strengthening efforts on NF member regions participation in Arctic Council projects.
6.	Promoting the development of NF Project on Arctic telemedicine	During the year	Implementation of Article 13 of the Yakutsk Declaration – 2015
7.	Actively involving the regions in the implementation of the SDWG's project "Arctic Renewable Energy Atlas (AREA)"	During the year	Implementation of Articles 37 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 on need for strengthening efforts on NF member regions participation in Arctic Council projects.

8.	Actively involving the regions in the implementation of the SDWG's project "Arctic Remote Energy Networks Academy (ARENA)"	During the year	Implementation of Articles 37 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 on need for strengthening efforts on NF member regions participation in Arctic Council projects.
9.	Actively involving the regions in the implementation of the SDWG's projects Arctic Children – Preschool Education and Arctic Children – School Education (International Arctic School)	During the year	Implementation of Articles 32 and 37 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018 on need for strengthening efforts on NF member regions participation in Arctic Council projects.
10.	Developing cooperation with Arctic Economic Council	Permanently	Implementation of Article 18 of the Yakutsk Declaration – 2015 on willingness to engage in constructive cooperation for economic development of the Northern territories and strengthen the role of regional governments in the development of business cooperation in the North.
11.	Establishing close cooperation with Barents Euro-Arctic Council and Barents Regional Council	Permanently	Implementation of Article 30 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018.
12.	Continue joint work with Arctic Portal on developing NF business directory	Permanently	During 11 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Moscow, International Business Week in Murmansk, and Arctic Circle Assembly in Reykjavik, Iceland, there were discussions with Arctic Portal and work on developing business directory – joint NF and Arctic Portal project – has begun.
13.	Preparing and holding Regional Coordinators Committee meetings and other NF meetings	On a regular basis	In accordance with Section 6.1 of the NF Rules of Procedure, Regional Coordinators Committee onsite meetings shall take place annually.
14.	Preparing and holding Governors' Summit	Annually	A proposal to hold the Governors' Summit annually was discussed during 12 <sup>th</sup> NF General Assembly.
15.	Arranging teleconferences with Regional Coordinators to discuss projects, NF regional events	Once in a quarter	Teleconferences via Skype and other means are arranged on a regular basis in order to enhance all NF activities, facilitate decision making, increase a role of regions in organization governance
16.	Working with Project Coordinators	Permanently	In accordance with operational structure approved by Resolution # 177, newly established Working Groups have to develop their own

			work plans, select projects, assess outcomes of projects implementation and report to Regional Coordinators Committee.
17.	Participation of NF representatives in various international events	See Events Calendar	Implementation of Article G.6. of the Moscow Declaration. Main goal – introducing NF work, sharing experience, attracting organizations interested in Arctic and North development to cooperate
18.	Arranging visits of NF Chair, Vice Chairs, Executive Director to different regions	On a regular basis	Main goal – NF presentation and attraction of new members
19.	Attending meetings and events of UN bodies and agencies related to NF work (UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, GEF, WHO)	On a regular basis	Implementation of Article 31 of the Krasnoyarsk Declaration – 2018.
20.	Promoting an initiative on legislative consolidation at the Russian federal level of social support measures for students from among the indigenous peoples of the Far North	On a regular basis	Proposal from the Sakha Republic
21.	Creation of a media group of the Northern Forum member regions for integrated coverage of events held under the auspices of the Northern Forum	On a regular basis	Proposal from the Sakha Republic
22.	Attraction of Arctic countries and regions of Russian Arctic with territories of compact residence of indigenous people for conducting sociological studies to assess the quality of their life in the framework of the project "Human in the Arctic"	On a regular basis	Proposal from the Sakha Republic
23.	Developing of cooperation with the coordinators of the SLiCA project in order to synchronize it with the NF project "Human in the Arctic" to conduct sociological surveys on the level and quality of life of indigenous minorities of the North	On a regular basis	Proposal from the Sakha Republic
24.	Cooperation with the leaders of University of the Arctic thematic networks in order to develop training programs and practical courses	On a regular basis	Proposal from the Sakha Republic



	aimed at improving the competence and prestige of the professions required for traditional industries of the northern and Arctic regions		
25.	Developing of mechanisms for interregional and international exchange of students and specialists in the traditional sectors of the North for training and gaining practical skills	On a regular basis	Proposal from the Sakha Republic

## THE NORTHERN FORUM EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2019

<b>No</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Participation on behalf of NF</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
1.	Arctic Frontiers - 2019	20-25 January	Tromsø, Norway	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event and to hold NF session. Meeting of NF Working Group on Assessment of Quality of Life in the Arctic Regions.	Attracting new members and promoting NF work.
2.	Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) Meeting	5-6 February	Kemi, Finland	It is advisable for Chairing Region, Executive Director and if possible NF projects and working groups members to attend this event	Strengthening NF work on involvement in Arctic Council projects, promoting NF initiatives
3.	Arctic Council Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group Meeting	February		It is advisable for Chairing Region, Executive Director and if possible NF projects and working groups members to attend this event	Strengthening NF work on involvement in Arctic Council projects, promoting NF initiatives
4.	Arctic Business Development Tour	February – March	Barrow, Alaska, US	It is advisable for business circles and representatives of relevant authorities from NF regions to attend this event	Establishing relations, exploring the ways for possible interregional cooperation on business and entrepreneurship development in the Arctic
5.	Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials Meeting	13-14 March	Ruka, Finland	It is advisable for NF Chairing Region and Executive Director to attend this event. To present NF activities if possible.	Implementing the Observer status in the Arctic Council. Strengthening NF profile within the Arctic Council

					through contribution of member regions to the meeting agenda.
6.	SMART-ART International Inclusive Festival "Show Yourself!"	March	Yakutsk, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	
7.	V International Arctic Forum "Arctic – Territory of Dialogue"	9-10 April	Arkhangelsk, Russia	Participation of NF member regions, Executive Director, Business Partners, Working Groups, project members, experts. Meetings of NF Working Group on Housing in the Arctic and Working Group on Transportation in the North	Key platform for discussing current issues and Arctic development perspectives. Attracting new members and promoting NF work.
8.	Northern Forum Governors' Meeting on the margins of International Arctic Forum "Arctic – Territory of Dialogue"	9 or 10 April	Arkhangelsk, Russia	Participation of all Governors from NF member regions, Business Partners, Working Groups, project members, experts and relevant non-member regions	Discussing current issues related to NF activities.  Platform for promoting initiatives within Northern Forum.
9.	High North Dialogue Conference	10-11 April	Bodø, Norway	Participation of youth and other NF member regions representatives	Building governance capacity of youth from NF member regions, strengthening academia relations and establishing collaborations
10.	X Arctic Business Forum	April	Kemi, Finland	It is advisable for business circles from NF member regions to attend this event. Meeting of NF Working Group on Business Cooperation in the North.	Developing business cooperation in the Arctic. Presenting NF activities in this field.
11.	VIII Ugra Industrial Forum	April	Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia	It is advisable for business circles from NF member regions to attend this event.	Proposal of KhMAO Government

12.	XVI Krasnoyarsk Economic Forum	April	Krasnoyarsk, Russia	Arranging NF session on advancing international interregional cooperation in the Arctic	Attracting new members and promoting NF work.
13.	11 <sup>th</sup> Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting	6-7 May	Rovaniemi, Finland	It is advisable for Chairing Region and Executive Director to attend this event.	Implementing the Observer status in the Arctic Council. Strengthening NF profile within the Arctic Council.
14.	International Conference "Universe of the Polar Bear"	May	Chukotka, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Proposal of Chukotka Government
15.	International Action "To Save and Preserve" under NF auspices	May-June	Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Enhancing interregional cooperation in the field of environmental protection.
16.	Arctic Arts Summit	4-5 June	Rovaniemi, Finland	It is advisable for artists and representatives of relevant authorities from NF member regions. Meeting of NF Working Group on Culture.	Promoting indigenous arts of NF member regions, sharing experience in the field of arts and culture, activating NF Working Group on Culture.
17.	XXIII St. Petersburg International Economic Forum	6-8 June	St. Petersburg, Russia	It is advisable for NF Chairing Region, as well as other representatives of NF member regions, entities and organizations to attend this event.	Promoting NF, discussing economic issues of Northern territories development.
18.	International Conference "Renewable Energy Development in the Russian Far East"	June	Yakutsk, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives, entities and organizations interested in renewables development in NF member regions to attend this event.	Sharing experience in the field of renewable energy. Developing cooperation among regions in the field of renewable energy in the North settings.
19.	Ugra Governor's Cup Oblas Boat Racing	July	Nefteyugansk, KhMAO, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions and sports teams to participate in this sports event.	Enhancing cooperation among NF member regions in the field of ethnic

					sports and preservation of traditional indigenous way of life.
20.	"Nature and Us" Action under NF auspices	April-September	Yakutsk, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Enhancing interregional cooperation in the field of environmental protection.
21.	Arctic Circle Assembly	11-13 October	Reykjavik, Iceland	It is advisable for NF Chairing Region to attend this event. Meetings of NF Working Group on Regional Adaptation to Climate Change and Working Group on Energy Development in the North.	Attracting new members and promoting NF work.
22.	Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) Meeting	October	Finland	It is advisable for Chairing Region, Executive Director and if possible NF projects and working groups members to attend this event	Strengthening NF work on involvement in Arctic Council projects, promoting NF initiatives
23.	Northern Forum Regional Coordinators Committee Meeting	November	TBD	Participation of RCC Chair, Secretariat, member regions, Business Partners, project members, Working Groups, experts.	Discussing NF activities. Coordinating joint actions of NF member regions.
24.	Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials Meeting	November	Finland	It is advisable for NF Chairing Region and Executive Director to attend this event. To present NF activities if possible.	Implementing the Observer status in the Arctic Council. Strengthening NF profile within the Arctic Council through contribution of member regions to the meeting agenda.
25.	XVIII Tourism Exhibition-Fair "UgraTour 2019"	November	Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Proposal of KhMAO Government
26.	US-Russian Polar Bear Commission Meeting	November	TBD	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Proposal of Chukotka Government

27.	Days of the Arctic in Moscow	December	Moscow, Russia	It is advisable for NF Chairing Region and other member regions to attend this event	Promoting NF. Attending and arranging presentations and roundtables
28.	International Forum "Arctic: Today and the Future"	December	St. Petersburg, Russia	Participation of NF member regions, Executive Director, Business Partners, Working Groups, project members, experts. Meeting of NF Working Group on Education and Science.	Arranging NF roundtable or session
29.	V International Scientific Practical conference «EUROARCTIC -2019»	4th quarter of 2019	Naryan-Mar, Russia	It is advisable for scientific community of the NF member-regions to attend this event. Meetings of NF Working Group on Regional Adaption to Climate Change and Working Group on Environment and Conservation of Biodiversity.	Discussing current environmental issues and mechanisms for further interaction of the regions to solve these problems.
30.	All-Russia Research Conference "Regional Problems of Russian Far East Development" dedicated to the memory of R.S. Moiseev	TBD		It is advisable for academia, relevant authorities from NF member regions, Business Partners to attend this event	Establishing and strengthening academia cooperation among NF regions
31.	Participation in the events of Northern Forum projects to the extent possible	During the year	NF member regions	NF leadership	Implementing NF mission on improving the quality of life, sustainable development of Northern regions and environmental conservation.

## THE NORTHERN FORUM MEMBER REGIONS' EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2019

№	Event	Date	Venue	Participation on behalf of NF	Opportunities
1.	28 <sup>th</sup> Kamchatka Sled Dog Race "Beringia – 2019"	21 February – Race for Kids "Dyulin-2019"	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to promoting traditional activities of NF regions. Beringia – traditional Kamchatka sled dog race taking place since 1990.
		23 February – "Beringia – 2019" Opening Ceremony and Prologue Race	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia		
		02 March – Festive Events on the occasion of "Beringia – 2019"	Esso village, Bystrinsky District, Kamchatka Krai, Russia		
		03 March – Official Start of "Beringia – 2019"	Esso village, Bystrinsky District, Kamchatka Krai, Russia		
2.	Folk Exhibition "Treasures of Memory. Myths and Fairy Tales of Kamchatka Peoples"	21 February	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
3.	Theatrical Performance "Holiday in Kamchatka"	25 March	Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
4.	Interregional Conference "Issues of Preserving and Developing Indigenous Languages of Peoples of North, Siberia and Far East"	March	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Establishing academia relations among NF members. Assisting to preserving and promoting cultural heritage of indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East.

5.	Magadan Oblast reindeer herders meeting	March	Evensk village, Magadan Oblast, Russia	It is advisable for NF Secretariat to attend this event	Contribute in maintaining and developing a traditional reindeer husbandry in the north
6.	"Buran-Dey" - snowmobile competitions for the Cup of Hero of the Soviet Union, Hero of the Russian Federation Artur Chilingarov		Naryan-Mar, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Strengthening an interregional cooperation in sports, promotion of traditional activities of the Northern indigenous minorities
7.	Puppet play "Little Kukhlyanka" in Koryak language	1 June	Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
8.	Even peoples traditional New Year celebration «Hebdenek»	June	Magadan, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
9.	International Festival "Bone carving art of the peoples of the world"	October	Magadan, Russia	It is advisable for NF Secretariat and NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
10.	VI Interregional scientific practical conference «Bogorazovskie chteniya»	October	Magadan, Russia	It is advisable for NF Secretariat and NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
11.	Evening of Literature and Music "Panorama of Northern Languages"	December	Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
12.	Books Exhibition "Treasury of Northern Peoples' Languages"	During 2019	Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving indigenous languages
13.	Organizing traditional holidays during the year	During 2019	Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Traditional holidays of Kamchatka indigenous peoples are held in order to preserve Koryak rites, language, to honour cultural traditions, respect nature, and to promote healthy lifestyle. Organizers and elders will introduce to holiday participants and guests the rites, national cuisine using



					indigenous languages of Kamchatka, hold workshops to teach basic words used in rites in indigenous languages of Kamchatka.
14.	Folklore and Ethnographic Expeditions to National Villages of Kamchatka	During 2019	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Institution increased its efforts on gathering data through systematic and consistent folklore and ethnographic expeditions
15.	Interactive thematic mini plays in Alyutor dialect of Koryak language for preschool school-aged children	During 2019	Palana village, Kamchatka Krai, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Assisting to preserving language and cultural traditions of NF regions
16.	Folklore and Ethnographic Expeditions to National Villages of Kamchatka	During 2019	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia	It is advisable for NF member regions representatives to attend this event	Institution increased its efforts on gathering data through systematic and consistent folklore and ethnographic expeditions

\* NF Executive Director and NF Secretariat (including interpreters) are expected to take part in all events in order to ensure participation of NF leadership.