

The IPY-supported project

**Monitoring of development of traditional indigenous land use areas in the  
Nenets Autonomous Okrug, NW Russia.**

Acronym: **MODIL-NAO**

A cooperative project of the  
**Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI)**  
and the  
**Association of Nenets People Yasavey**

**Annual report 2008**

By Winfried Dallmann, project leader

**Project period**

The project period has been extended until 30 June 2009. The extension has been approved by the Research Council of Norway.

**Contracts and agreements**

No new contracts were entered in 2008.

**Staff**

*Project staff active in 2008:*

Winfried Dallmann, NPI: project management, data acquisition, GIS and map work, webmaster

Vladislav Peskov, Yasavey: project management

Boele Kuipers, NPI: GIS work

Zoia Vylka Ravna, project assistant: translation, interpretation, administrative work, data search

Olga Murashko, scientific contractor: management of questionnaire campaign

Filipp Taybarey, project assistant (from Nov.): project implementation in Naryan-Mar, interviewer

Vladimir Nyurov, contractor: interviewer

Aleksandr Nosov, contractor: interviewer

Viktoriya Vylko, contractor: interviewer

Yana Evsyugina, contractor: interviewer

Ekaterina Khmeleva, legal contractor: just started in November/December

Other staff of NPI and Yasavey: project assistance, accounting, legal advice

Members of the international Scientific Expert Group: only occasional involvement, The expert group was supplemented by Alexei Bambulyak, General manager for Russia at Akvaplan-niva.

### **Project website**

The bilingual project website <http://npolar.no/ipy-nenets> (launched in late January 2007) has continually been updated. Webmaster: Winfried Dallmann

### **Data acquisition**

#### ***Questionnaire campaign***

A major source of data for the project is questionnaire campaign directed towards traditional land users. A questionnaire has been elaborated by the project's anthropologist, Olga Murashko, and has been going on since September 2007. Local residents are contracted and trained to run the interviews in the various settlements and during various gatherings. By the end of 2008 a number of 92 interviews have been carried out, of which 72 are followed by detailed notes on maps. The interview campaign has taken considerably more time than anticipated, which is part of the reason for the extension of the project period.

#### ***Satellite image interpretation***

Satellite image interpretation at a detailed scale is used to monitor visual, physical damage of the tundra. GoogleEarth (<http://earth.google.com/>) provides high-resolution images for a number of areas within the Nenets Autonomous Okrug, which was significantly extended in early 2008. The Google Earth imagery was extensively interpreted and results entered into the GIS database as well as maps (posted on website). It has not been possible to purchase other satellite images for reasonable prices on the market or through IPY cooperation. Satellite image interpretation is done by the Norwegian Polar Institute.

#### ***Statistical and published data***

Published or publically available data on infrastructure, population, traditional and other economies are collected by various project staff and are continually entered into the GIS database. Data are posted on the website as tables.

#### ***GIS database***

The GIS database has been provisionally established at NPI, but is not yet available to others. Data are continually entered and can be provided to project participants and cooperation partners on request. A number of datasets are posted on the website.

### **Student thesis**

A student thesis has been commenced by Torunn Berg at the Norwegian University of Life Science, under the title "Reindeer herders and habitat fragmentation in Kharp and Erv, Nenets Autonomous Okrug, Russia - The role of climate change". Torunn Berg is basing her thesis partly on data acquired through this project.

## **Budget**

Out of the NOK 1.200.000 provided by the Norwegian Research Council, NOK 879.000 were used by the end of 2008. Applications for additional funding to StatoilHydro and ConocoPhillips Russland have not been successful.

## **Presentations**

Dallmann, W., 2008. Monitoring of Development of Traditional Indigenous Land Use Areas in the Nenets Autonomous Okrug, NW Russia. EcoPechora 2008, Naryan-Mar, 13-14 May 2008.

[http://www.cicero.uio.no/publications/detail.aspx?publication\\_id=6229&lang=no](http://www.cicero.uio.no/publications/detail.aspx?publication_id=6229&lang=no)

Dallmann, W., 2008. Indigenous peoples of the Russian Arctic: Some aspects of economy, subsistence and climate change. The Economy of the North II, ECONOR workshop, Oslo, 19-20 May 2008.

[http://www.cicero.uio.no/publications/detail.aspx?publication\\_id=6231&lang=no](http://www.cicero.uio.no/publications/detail.aspx?publication_id=6231&lang=no)

Hovelsrud, G.K., W. Dallmann and H. Amundsen, 2008. Arctic oil and gas exploration: Social implications. Arctic Frontiers: Challenges for oil and gas development in the Arctic, 20-25 January 2008, Tromsø.

## **Media attention in 2008:**

Lukoil tries to pacify indigenous people. Moscow Times, 10 April 2008

Oil enriching Nenets, bankrupting traditions. Moscow Times, 11 April 2008

Norwegian IPY Committee: <http://www.polararet.no/artikler/2008/1222341036.48>

Norwegian IPY Committee: Miljøkamp på tundraen. Polaråret 2007-2008. Pp. 22-25 ([http://www.polararet.no/filearchive/ipy\\_magasin.pdf](http://www.polararet.no/filearchive/ipy_magasin.pdf))

## **Changed personnel situation**

The project leader, Winfried Dallmann, left his work at NPI in Tromsø and started to work at the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research Oslo (CICERO) on 1 January 2008, but returned to the Norwegian Polar Institute by 16 November.