

PASVIK PROGRAMME – State of the environment in the Norwegian, Finnish and Russian border area

Development and implementation of a joint trilateral environmental monitoring programme; including air, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems in the transboundary area 2003-2006.

Harmonisation and standardisation of monitoring and assessment methodologies used by researchers and authorities in the three countries.

Integrated assessment of the current state of the environment in the wake of extensive industrial activities for over many decades. More information and results on; www.pasvikmonitoring.org

Environmental bus – a mobile classroom

A regular bus was converted into a mobile classroom and laboratory for environmental education. During a five year period in 1995-2000 about 4,000 school children between the ages of 7 to 14 from the Kola Peninsula received basic environmental education. The project proved that even with small resources the work was rewarding in many aspects. A new environmental bus initiative is under planning for a new generation of school children in the Barents region. More information; mattias.lindgren@lansstyrelsen.se

The Regional Working Group on Environment - RWGE

Work for improving the state of surface and drinking water, biodiversity issues, sustainable management of natural resources, increased environmental consciousness and promote efforts on solving the Barents environmental “hot spots”.

Up coming regional projects;

- Knowledge and competence exchange in the water management sector
- Projects on improvement of drinking water quality in the Russian Barents
- Development of smallscale sewage purification systems
- Follow up of the Pasvik programme - Enhanced water monitoring cooperation to meet with the challenges of climate change and air born pollutants
- Environmental enlightenment - A new environmental bus initiative
- Atlantic salmon cooperation; river heritage, migration patterns and adaptation to climate change
- Project on harbour clean up - Environmentally sustainable small enterprises in the Barents region
- Development of nature protection and ecotourism cooperation in the Treteriksrosset area between Norway, Sweden and Finland
- Project Barents 2010+
- Projects on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources



Successfully Implemented Environmental Projects in the Barents Region

**by actors of the
Regional Working Group on
Environment**

Water Laboratory cooperation in the Barents region

This project has been ongoing since 1989. With the aims of increasing the quality assurance level of the water quality monitoring laboratories. Quality control and analytical method development, international comparability and a significant improvement of the reliability of the results of environmental analyses. The activity strengthens also the capabilities of local environmental authorities. Results and more information; jari.pasanen@ely-keskus.fi

Flood forecasting and modelling to meet with the challenges of climate change

Develop cooperation on flood risk management. Exchange of information and harmonisation of hydrological monitoring, develop models and management plans, flood forecasting and undertake flood protection measures. Results and more information; jari.pasanen@ely-keskus.fi

Environmentally sustainable small enterprises in the Barents region

Promote implementation of environmentally safe and cost effective operations in small and medium sizes enterprises. Identify rules and regulations, environmental conditions and analyse risk and vulnerability. Promote implementation of sustainable cost effective technologies to control discharge of

contaminants. This pre project was carried out in regions of Komi, North Ostrobothnia and Nordland in 2008-2009. More information and results; rho@fmno.no

Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park – Trilateral environmental and sustainable nature tourism cooperation

Nature, culture and history shared. The environmental authorities and nature monitoring cooperation is unique. The project in 2006-2008 focused on harmonised nature monitoring on key species, development and promotion of nature tourism, dissemination of information and unite the protected areas. The trilateral park is certified as a Europarc Transboundary Park. More information and results; www.pasvik-inari.net

Virgin Forest of Komi

“Yugyd Va” is the largest protected area in mainland Europe and part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site “Virgin Forests of Komi”. A project in 2009 on “Development of management tools and tourism in the National Park “Yugyd Va” in the Republic of Komi has been successfully carried out. The project yielded good results, amongst them the development and release of a series of information materials about the park in Russian, English and Komi languages, including a photo album, brochures about the rivers of the National Park, tourist maps and a web-site. More information: www.yugydva.komi.com e-mail: Yugyd-va@mail.ru

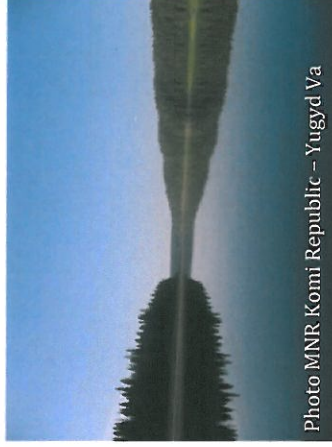


Photo MNR Komi Republic – Yugyd Va

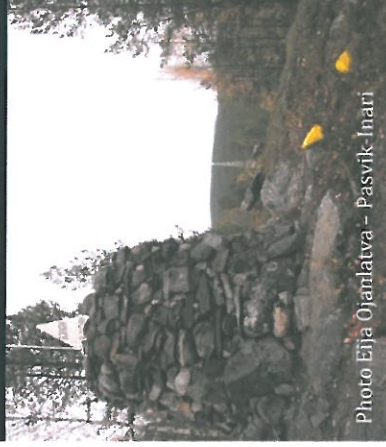


Photo Eija Ojanlatva – Pasvik Inari

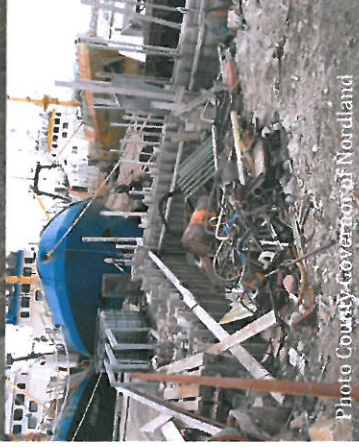


Photo County Government of Nordland



Photo Lapin ely-keskus – laboratory cooperation