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# Thematic Networks

Fifth Joint Finnish-Japanese Symposium on  
Northern Environmental Research,  
Oulanka, 2012

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A cooperative network of universities, colleges,  
and other organizations committed to higher  
education and research in the North



# Thematic Networks



A Thematic Network is a group of UArctic members working together on subjects of shared interest to conduct research and organize conferences and to create educational courses and programs, such as joint Master's and PhD studies.

The min. requirements:

1. The host organization has to be a full member of UArctic.
2. Network has to have at least three UArctic member partners (incl. host), preferably presenting North America, Nordic Countries and Russia.
3. The host organization has to support the network (letter of support signed by Rector/Provost).

# Thematic Networks



- Arctic Coastal and Marine Issues
- Arctic Engineering and Science
- Arctic Extractive Industries
- Arctic Law
- Arctic Sustainable Arts & Design
- Communicating Arctic Research
- Digital Media and Media Arts
- Distance Education and e-Learning
- Energy in New Time
- Environmental Impact Assessment of Industry Contaminated Areas
- Environmental Training and Education for Sustainable Development of the Arctic (NETESDA)
- Geology of Arctic
- Geopolitics and Security
- Global Change
- Health and Well-being in the Arctic
- Indigenous Arts and Crafts
- Local and Regional Development in the North
- Managing Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the North
- Northern Food Security
- Northern Governance
- Northern Tourism
- Polar Ice, Climate and Land Dynamics (PICD)
- Social Work
- The Verdde Program
- World Images of Indigenous Peoples of the North

# Joint research and other projects

- ArkRisk (EU FP7)
- Promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity of indigenous peoples of the North
- Logistics of the North
- Arctic Virtual Learning Tools
- Arctic Sustainable Art Exhibition

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**ArcRisk**

Home About ArcRisk Research Network Public Documents News & Events

Home >

**WP4**  
Human Health effects of contaminants and the influence of climate change

**WP1** Addressing human health aspects of the project, analysing the results of a number of studies conducted in the Arctic, preparing estimates of future dietary exposure, and investigating effects of climate change on exposure and human health outcomes in the Arctic and

**WP2**

**WP3**

**WP4**

**WP5**

**WP6**

**Financial Support**

**Topics addressed:**  
FP7-ENV-2008-1

ArcRisk is a project supported under the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities.

**Grant agreement:** 226534

**Project budget:** 4.74 million Euro (EU contribution 3.5 million Euro)

**Project duration:** June 2009 November 2013

**Latest news**

**Arctic Health Risks: Impacts on health in the Arctic and Europe owing to climate-induced changes in contaminant cycling**

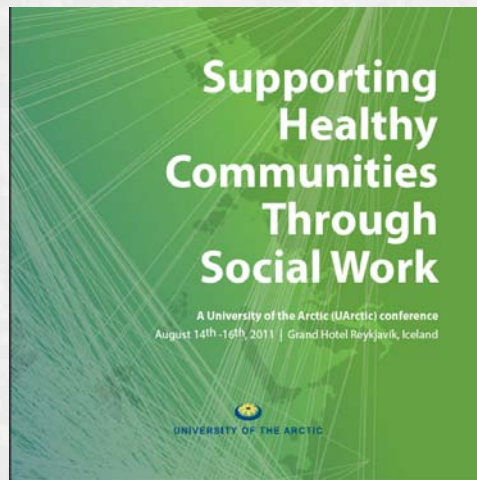
ArcRisk is an international EU funded research activity that is looking at the linkages between environmental contaminants, climate change and human health – aimed at supporting European policy development in these areas. The Arctic setting provides unique opportunities for research in these fields. All of us are exposed to environmental contaminants such as mercury and organic chemicals that persist in the environment. In some cases, exposure to these chemicals is high enough to raise concerns about possible subtle effects on human health. Climate change has the potential to alter the pathways by which harmful chemicals cycle through the environment and enter food chains.



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# Joint research; international conferences, symposiums, workshops 2011

All together individual Thematic Networks organized 19 workshops/ conferences/ symposiums in 2011.

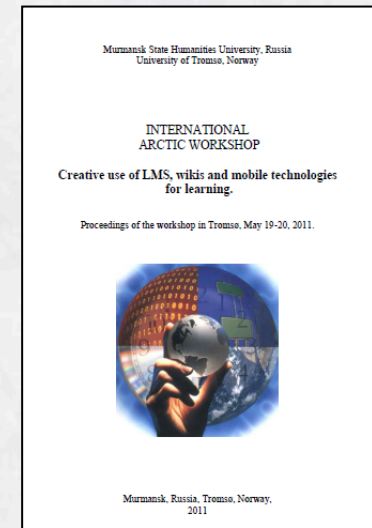
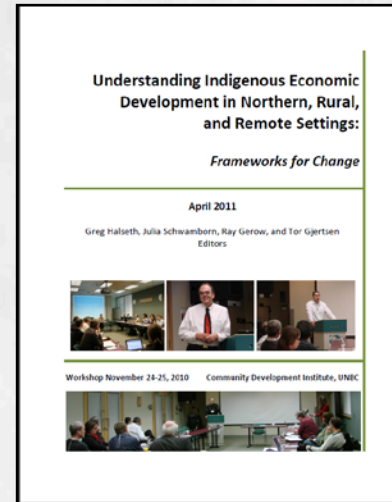


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## Joint research; publications



### Example publications in 2012:

- Climate & Carbon Law review
- Arctic Yearbook 2012 (to be launched in October)
- Yearbook of Polar Law (4th Yearbook)

## Arctic Human Development Report II



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# Joint research; International conferences 2012

## *Some examples:*

- Tales from the North, Inari (April)
- Calotte-Academia, Water globally and in North Calotte (May-June)
- “Transit of Venus” Conference, Tromsø (June)
- Fifth Polar Law Symposium, Rovaniemi (September)
- Small societies and small languages in globalization: opposition or survival (in cooperation with University of Rennes, France, October)
- Arctic Arts and Visual Culture Education Congress, Rovaniemi (November)

# Joint education; programs

- The first UArctic endorsed Master' program developed by Thematic Networks was accepted in Jan 2012 = Master's program on Northern Tourism.
- Other joint Master's programs are being developed

**Master's Degree Program on Health and well-being in circumpolar area** (2nd enrollment begin in Jan 2011).

The development of new, **UArctic PhD program on Arctic Health and Well-being** has been started in August 2012 with NCM Arctic co-operation support by TN Health and Well-being and Global Change.



# Joint education; courses 2011

*Some examples:*

PhD training courses:

- **“Ethics, traditional knowledge and change in the new year”, Kautokeino, Norway**
- **Summer Institute II (Contaminants & Risk Communication), Oulu, Finland**
- **“Frost in Geotechnical Engineering”, Luleå, Sweden**

Other:

- **”Alive Villages”, Arkangelsk, Russia**
- **Advanced Emphasis course in Local and Regional Development**
- **Iceberg student workshop**



# Joint education; courses 2012

- **“Snowtalks”, March, Abisko Research Station**
- VirCamp : “Community Work in an International Perspective” & “Community Work”
- Arctic Art & Design Summer School, May-June Rovaniemi
- Russian Summer School 2012, June, Komi Republic
- **Security in a changing World, Nov 2012, Oulu**

New project (funded by SIU, Norway 2012-15) will run a placement program and develop of a joint Norwegian Russian course on Managing Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in the North.

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**First self-evaluation of TNs was done in 2011 among those networks established in 2005-06**

"This is fun!"  
"It is great to work in TNs."  
"It has been a joy to work with this."







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