

# **EALÁT - Outreach and communication: Reindeer Herders Vulnerability Network study: Reindeer Pastoralism in a Changing Climate**

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## **Principal objective**

To communicate Arctic reindeer herders' traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge related to climate change to herders and the mainstream society in the Arctic.

- Reduce Reindeer Herders' vulnerability to climate change
- Increase local competence building
- Improve communication between reindeer herders and mainstream society
- Communicate knowledge from other IPY projects with focus on reindeer herders' societies and vulnerability to herding communities
- Outreach of the ACIA report in N-Russia

## **Project summary**

EALÁT OUTREACH focuses on understanding adaptive capacity of reindeer pastoralism to climate variability and change in the Arctic. Nomadic reindeer herding practices, ancient in origin, represents models of sustainable exploitation and management of northern terrestrial ecosystems that is based on generations of experience accumulated, conserved, developed and adapted to the climate and administration of the north. Reindeer have major cultural and economical significance for indigenous peoples of the north. EALÁT Outreach is a following up of the Arctic Council report Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA). The Council agreed that warming of the Arctic is occurring faster than previously thought and that indigenous peoples will experience substantial challenges to their economies and cultures as a result.

We recognize that the ability to adapt to change is based on knowledge embodied in herders' language, the institutions of herding and the actions of individual herders. We will collect information from reindeer herding peoples on how they use their traditional knowledge to adapt to change, and subsequently communicate this information. The project will contain two workshops with reindeer herding communities in Russia, in Yamalo-Nenets AO and Chukotka AO.

During the First Polar Year 1881-1884 the Norwegian Polar Station was established in Bossekop, Alta. Today IPY have to involve indigenous peoples' societies by building competence through understanding. IPY EALÁT is initiated and organized by indigenous institutions located in the Saami Society of Kautokeino not far from Bossekop.

IPY EALÁT reindeer herders network study will make the roadmap for the sustainable development the Arctic in partnership with national states for increased understanding of the rapid changes going on in the Arctic.